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EARLY SIGNING CLASS
FOOTBALL REWIND
ALEX ZETTLER
AND MORE...

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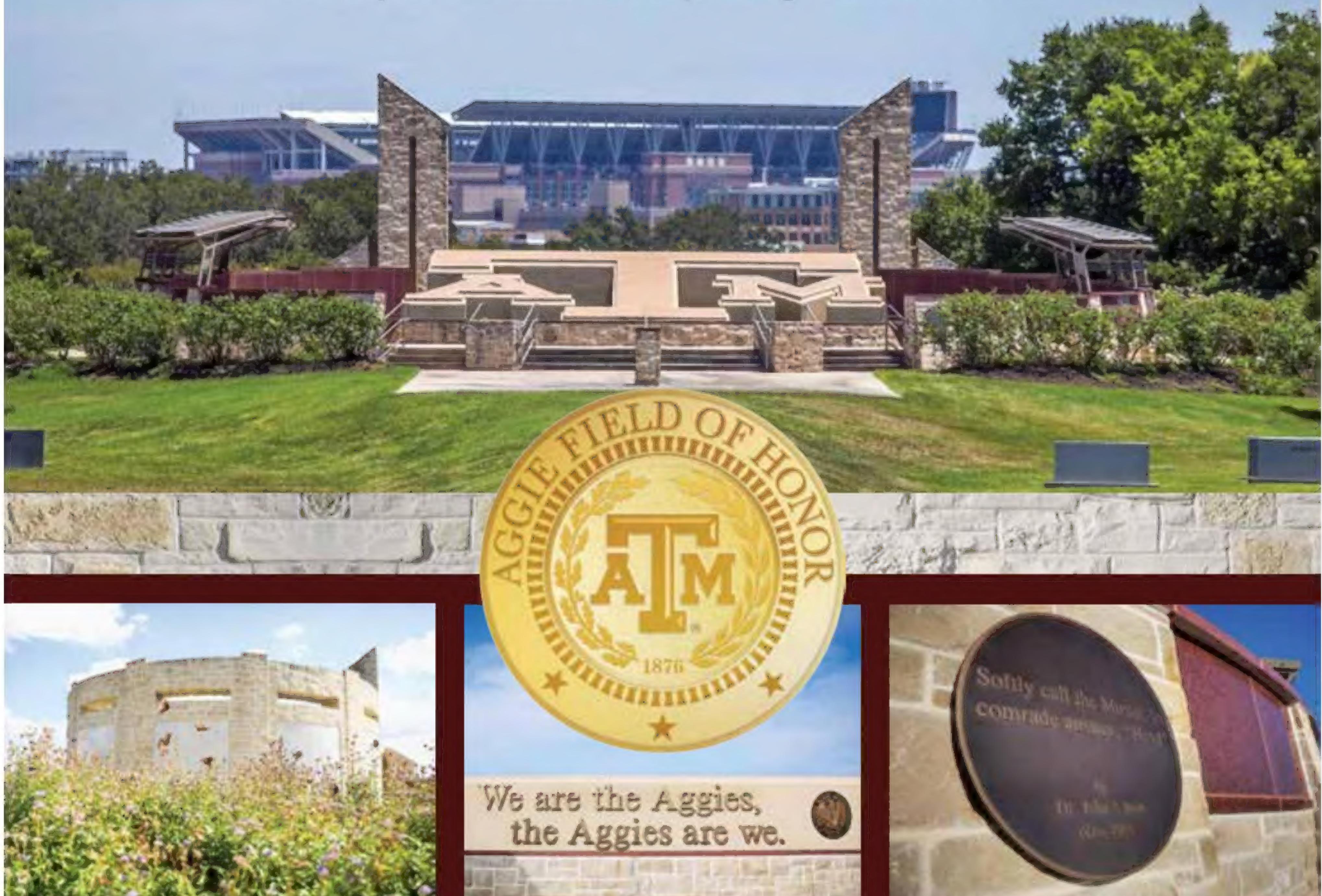
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CONTENTS

FEATURES

17

ALEX ZETTLER

From 6 year Walk-on to Aggie Coach
BY ROB HAVENS '88

19

EARLY SIGNING DAY CLASS

Coach Elko & Staff sign Elite Class

24

FOOTBALL REWIND

Here's a recap of the last 6 games with our favorite shots.
BY ROB HAVENS '88

IN EVERY ISSUE

Publisher's Note	04
Snapshots	06
Scoreboard	12
The 12th Man	30

ON THE COVER: Andersson Garcia shows that he cannot only rebound but also has the skills to score at the rim. Photo by Rob Havens '88





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Howdy Ags!

This was a bittersweet issue to put together as we looked back at the last two months of Aggie sports. Inside this issue, we have our football rewind that recaps our last six football games. It was great looking back at all of the pictures I shot of the LSU game. What an exciting night it was, as a packed Kyle Field saw Marcel Reed come in and light the place on fire in a comeback win that will be remembered for decades to come.

It was also a tough time looking back at the game against TU. As an Aggie who has experienced wins and losses against the Sips for the last 40 years, I can tell you there is nothing better than beating those guys and nothing worse than coming up short on the scoreboard. We want to thank our women's volleyball team for cruising into Austin and beating the back-to-back defending national champs on their home floor. We look forward to Buzz and the boys giving us another victory over the Horns on January 4th, 2025.

Speaking of Buzz, our basketball team is 10-2 through the first twelve games and has really bulked up their resume, including a big win over Texas Tech. As an Aggie who was raised in Lubbock, this was my favorite win of the season (Don't tell my beautiful Red Raider wife).

In this issue, we also showcase Elko's second early signing class. This is an elite class that coach and his staff got to build over a full year. 23 of the signees will be here in January.

We want to congratulate our volleyball team on a fantastic run in the NCAA Tournament! Coach Jamie Morrison has made Texas A&M a volleyball school. He just signed the No. 5 class in the nation!

Also in this issue, we got to interview Alex Zettler. I'm excited to share the story of the six-time walk-on who is now on Coach Elko's staff!

Please enjoy this issue and thanks to all of our corporate partners that make it possible!

Gig'em!

Rob '88



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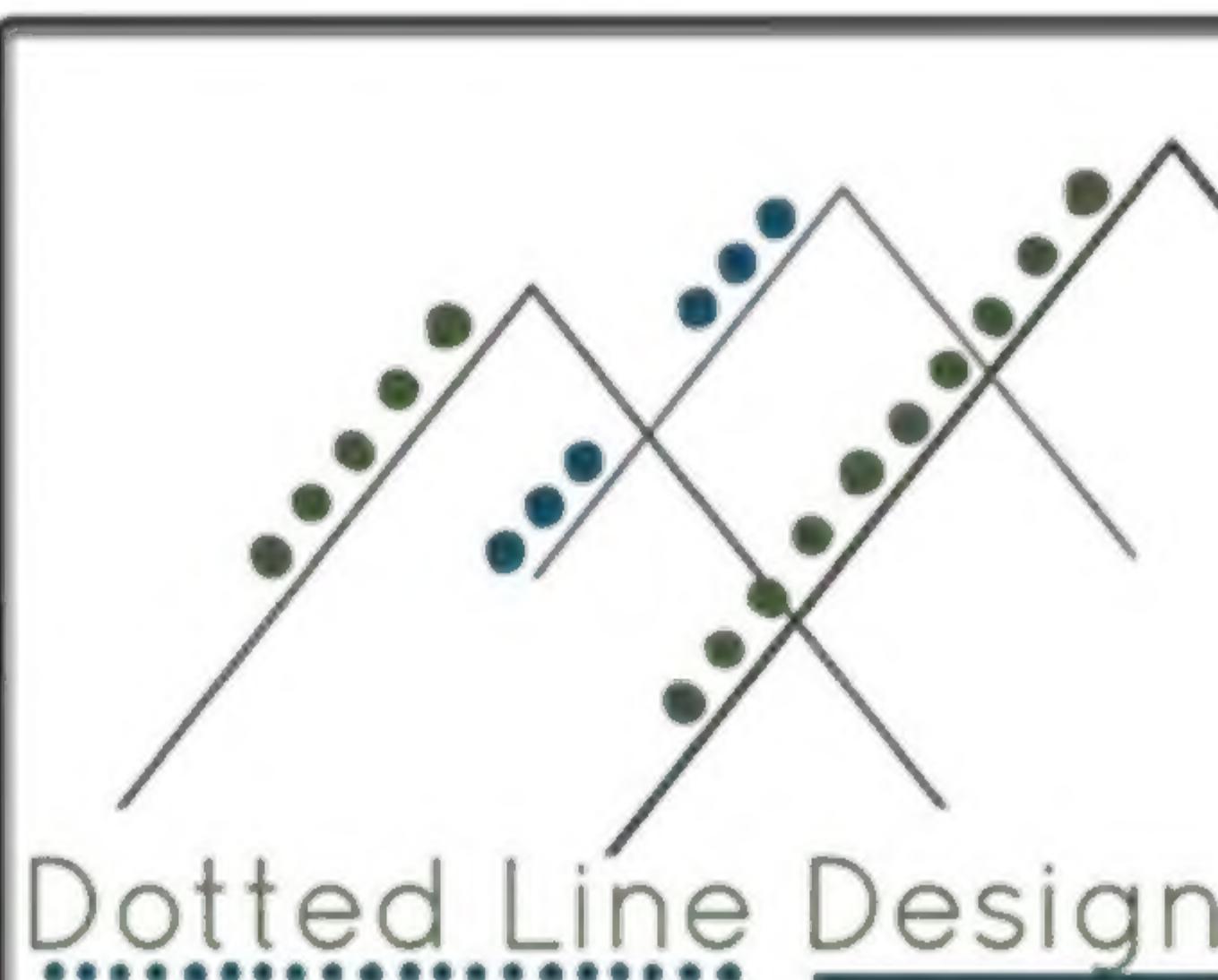


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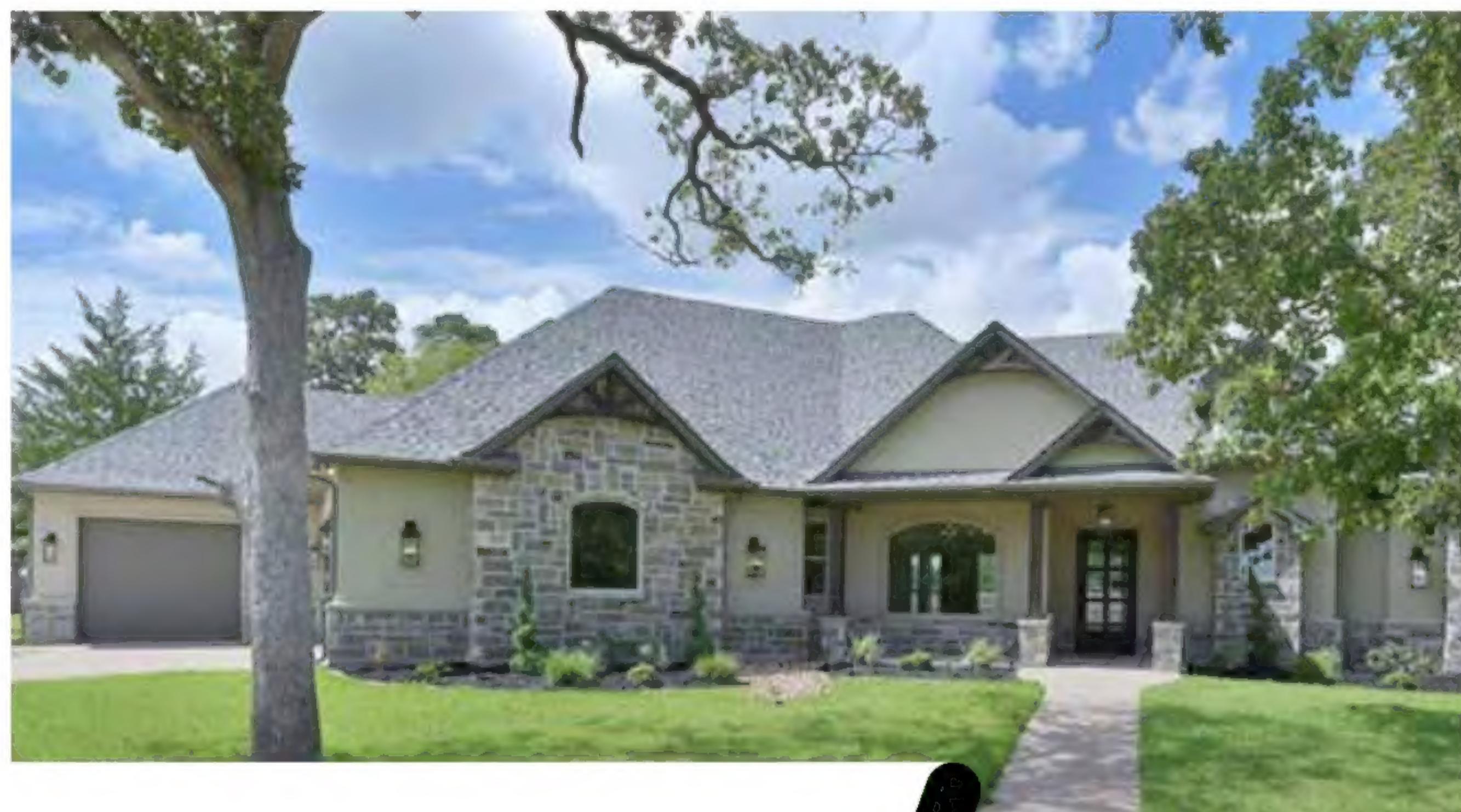
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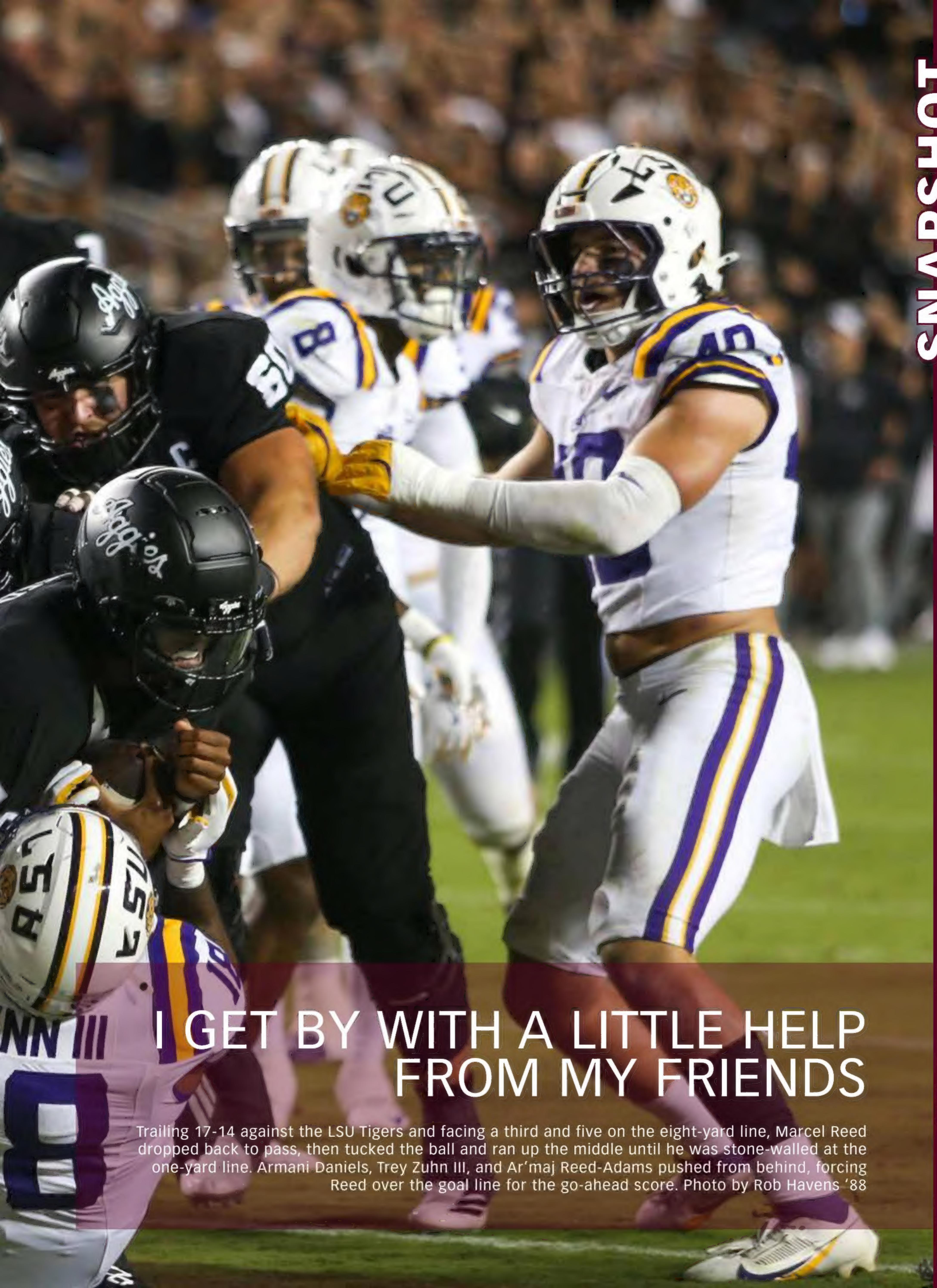




THANKS SO MUCH

After a thrilling come-from-behind victory of the LSU Tigers, Coach Mike Elko moved toward the student section and showed his appreciation. Trailing 17-7 in the third quarter and unable to get much done with the offense, Elko made the tough decision to insert backup quarterback Marcel Reed into the game. The redshirt freshman responded by leading the Aggies to a 38-23 victory in front of 108,852 fans. Photo by Rob Havens '88



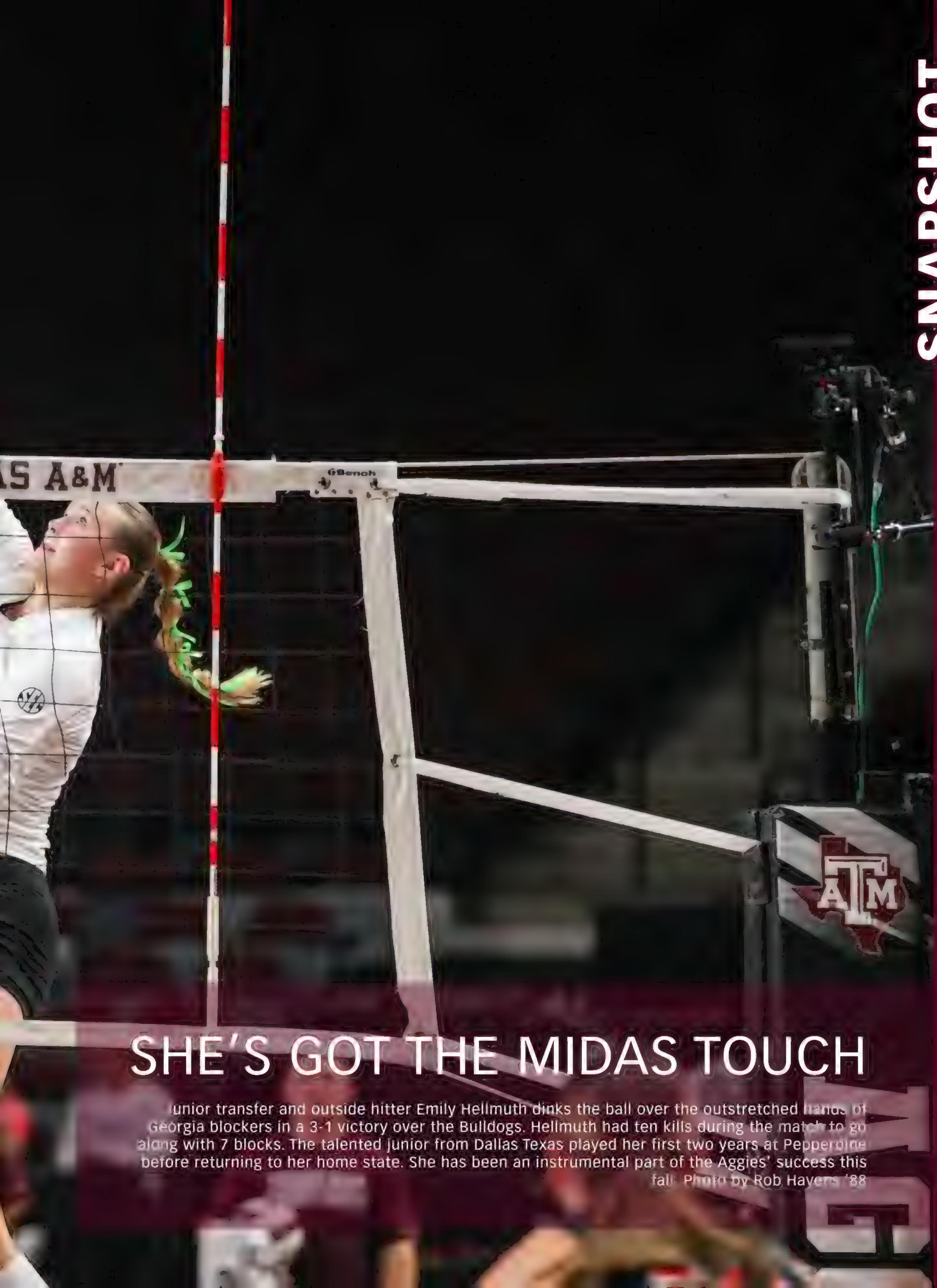


I GET BY WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS

Trailing 17-14 against the LSU Tigers and facing a third and five on the eight-yard line, Marcel Reed dropped back to pass, then tucked the ball and ran up the middle until he was stone-walled at the one-yard line. Armani Daniels, Trey Zuhn III, and Ar'maj Reed-Adams pushed from behind, forcing Reed over the goal line for the go-ahead score. Photo by Rob Havens '88



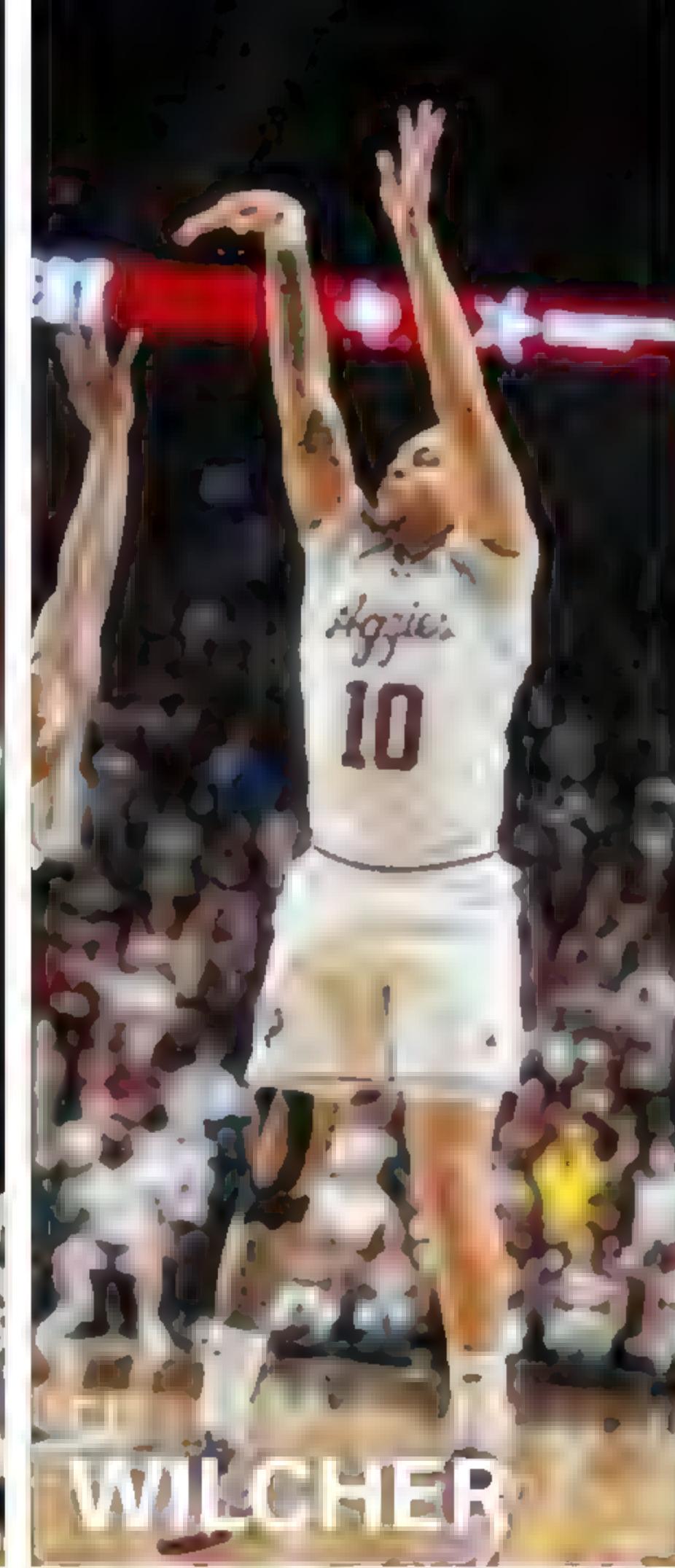
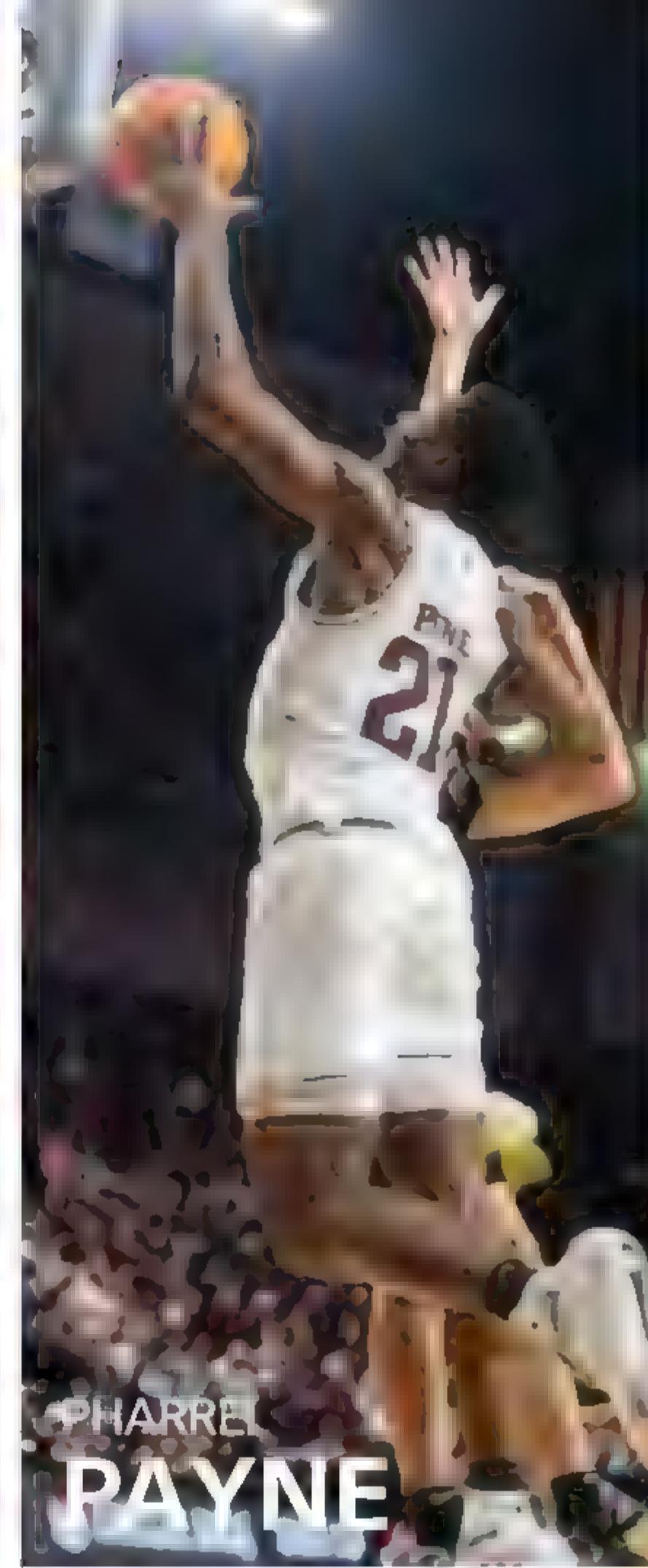
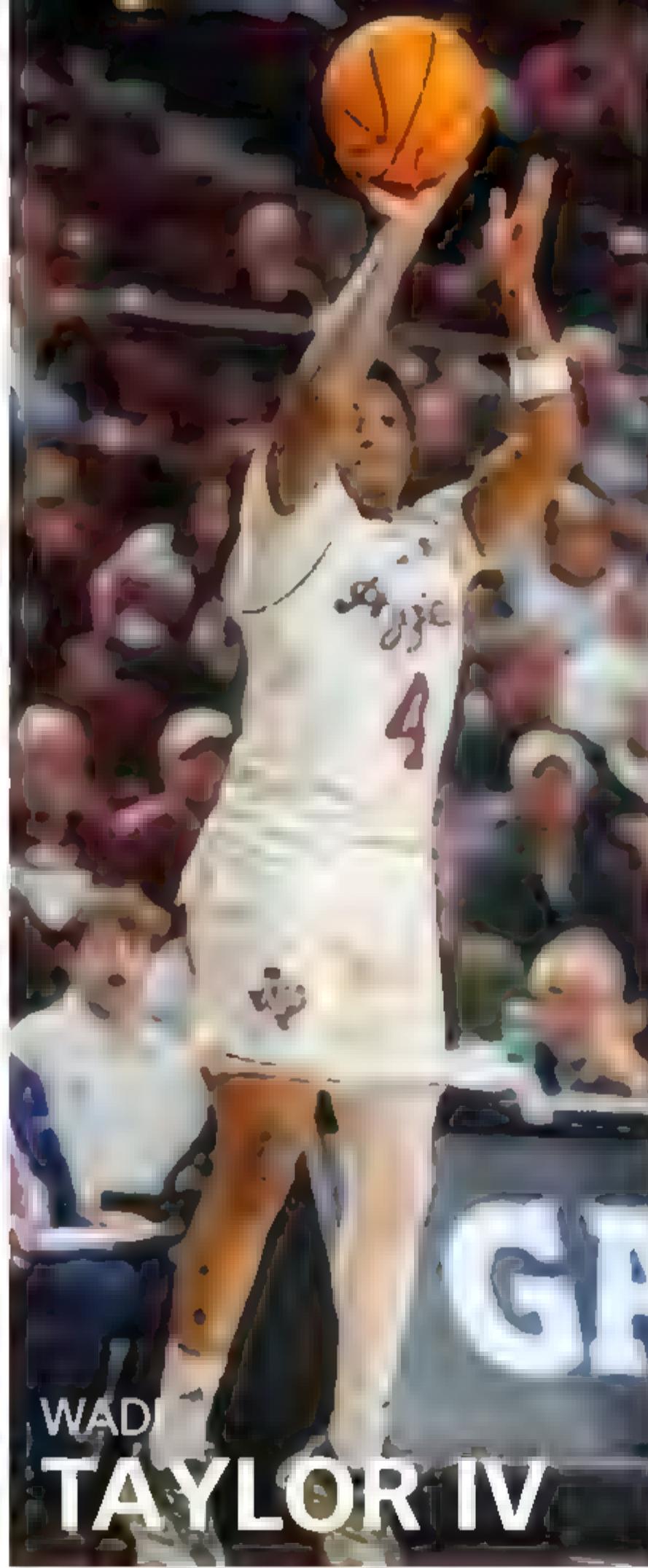
SNAPSHOT



SHE'S GOT THE MIDAS TOUCH

Junior transfer and outside hitter Emily Hellmuth dinks the ball over the outstretched hands of Georgia blockers in a 3-1 victory over the Bulldogs. Hellmuth had ten kills during the match to go along with 7 blocks. The talented junior from Dallas Texas played her first two years at Pepperdine before returning to her home state. She has been an instrumental part of the Aggies' success this fall.

Photo by Rob Haven '88

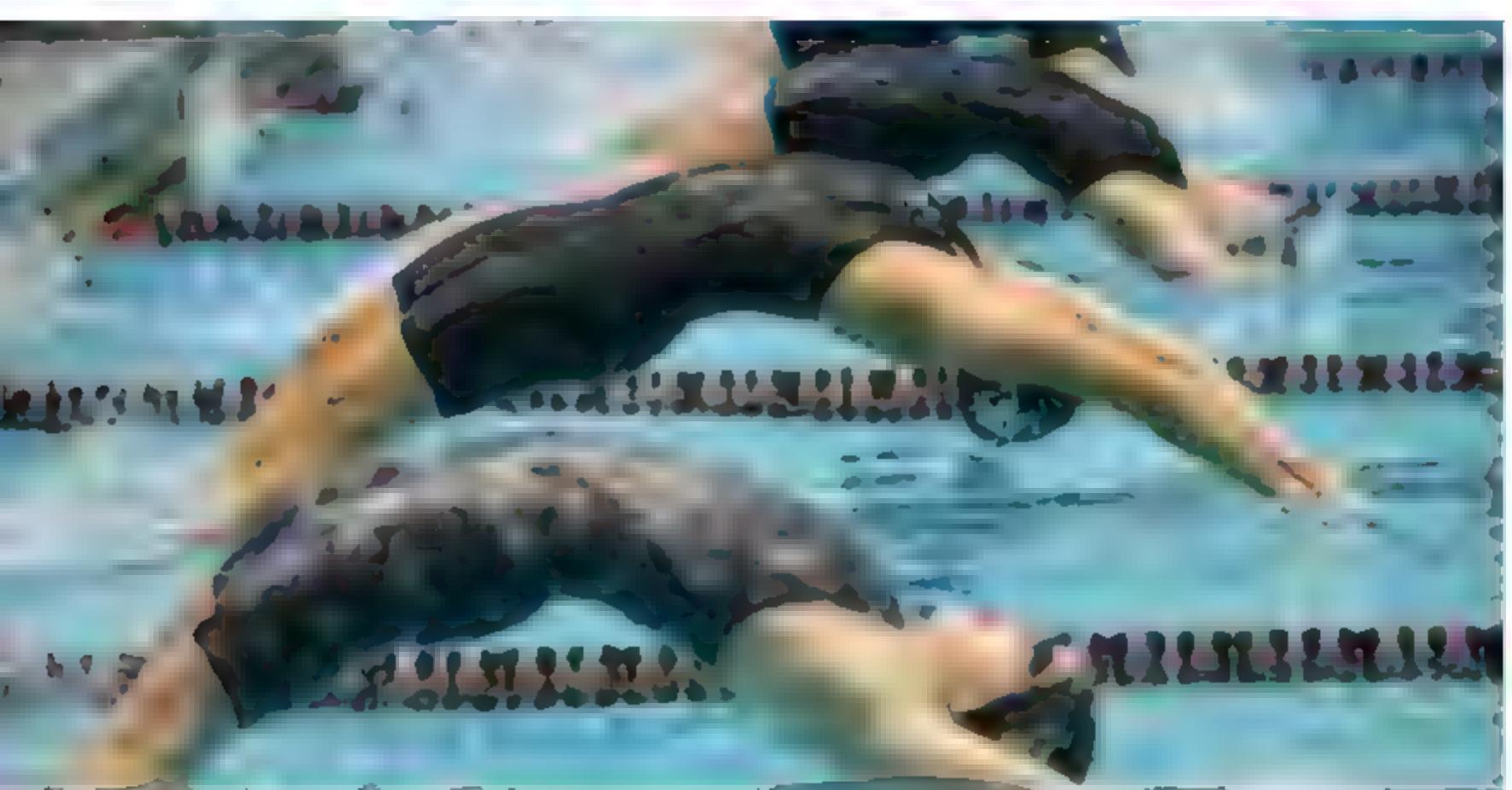
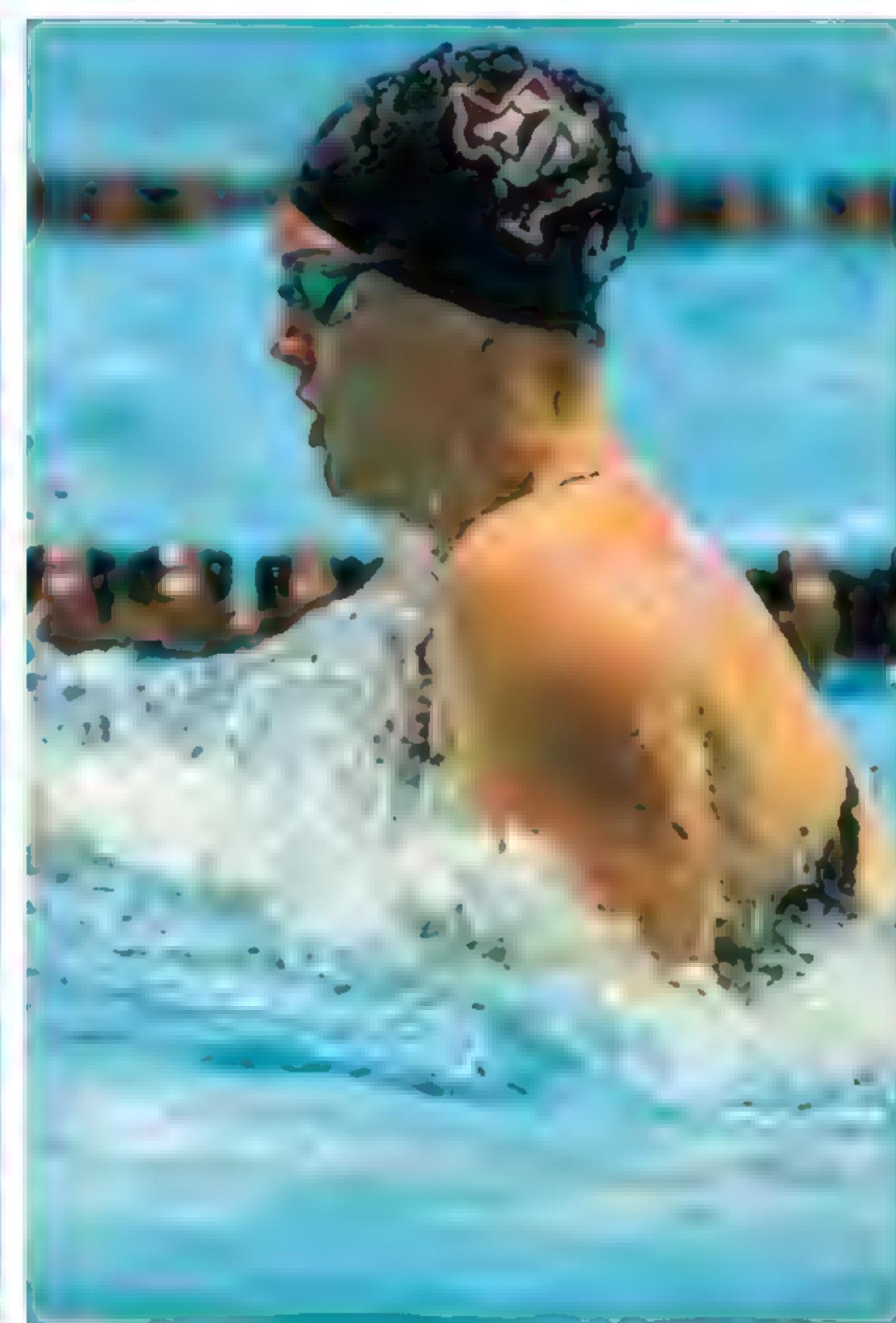
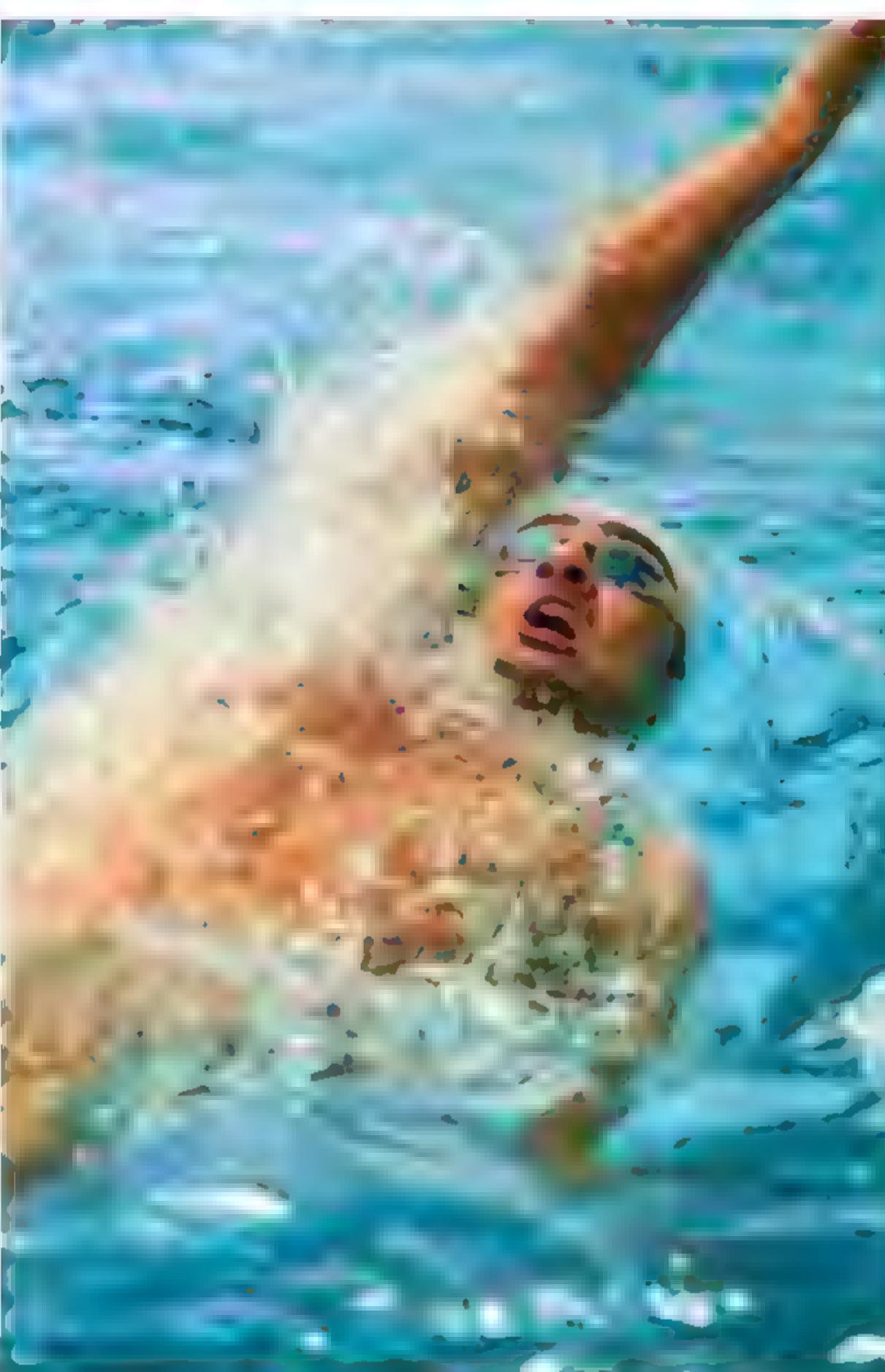
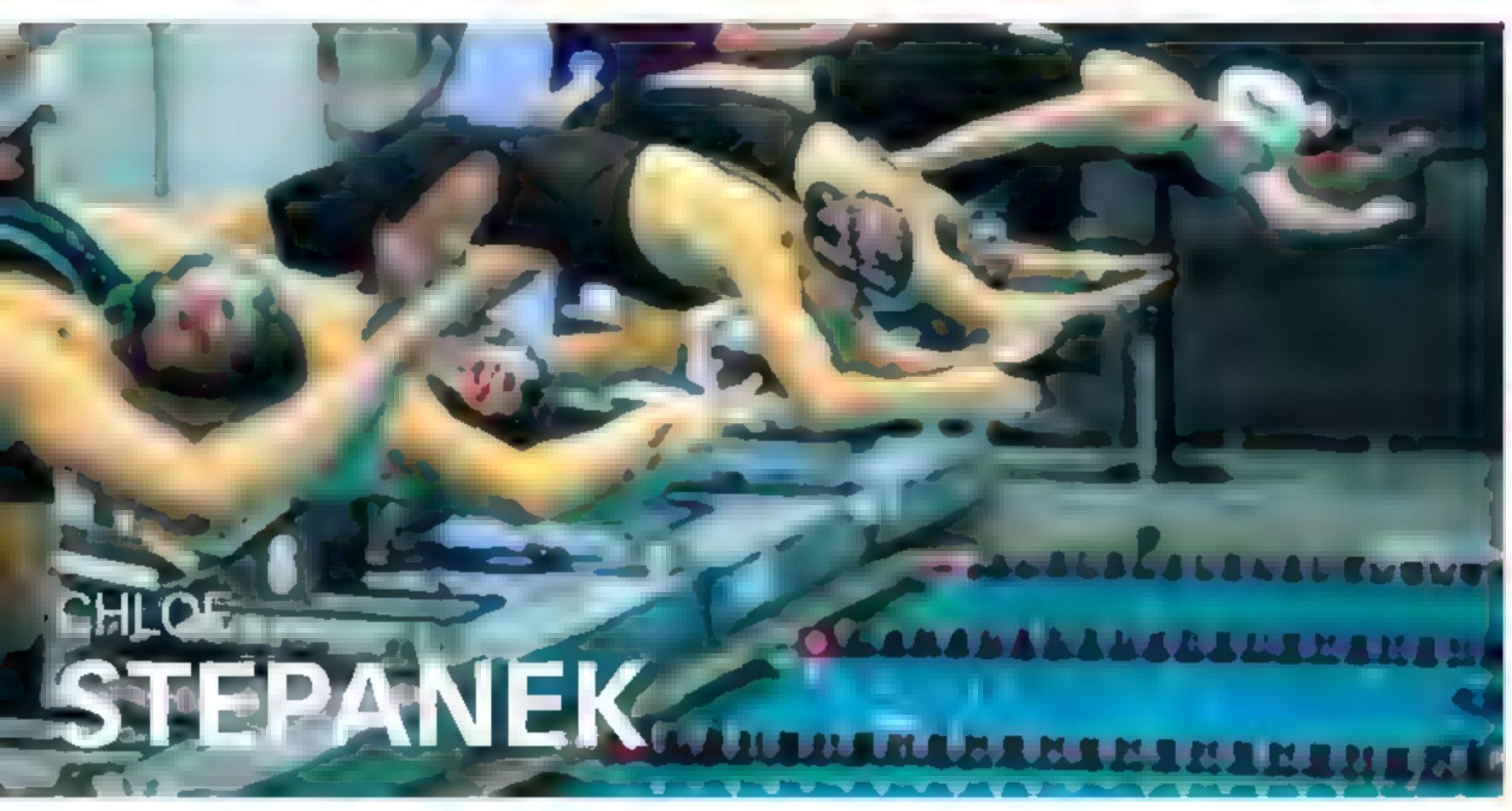


MEN'S BASKETBALL

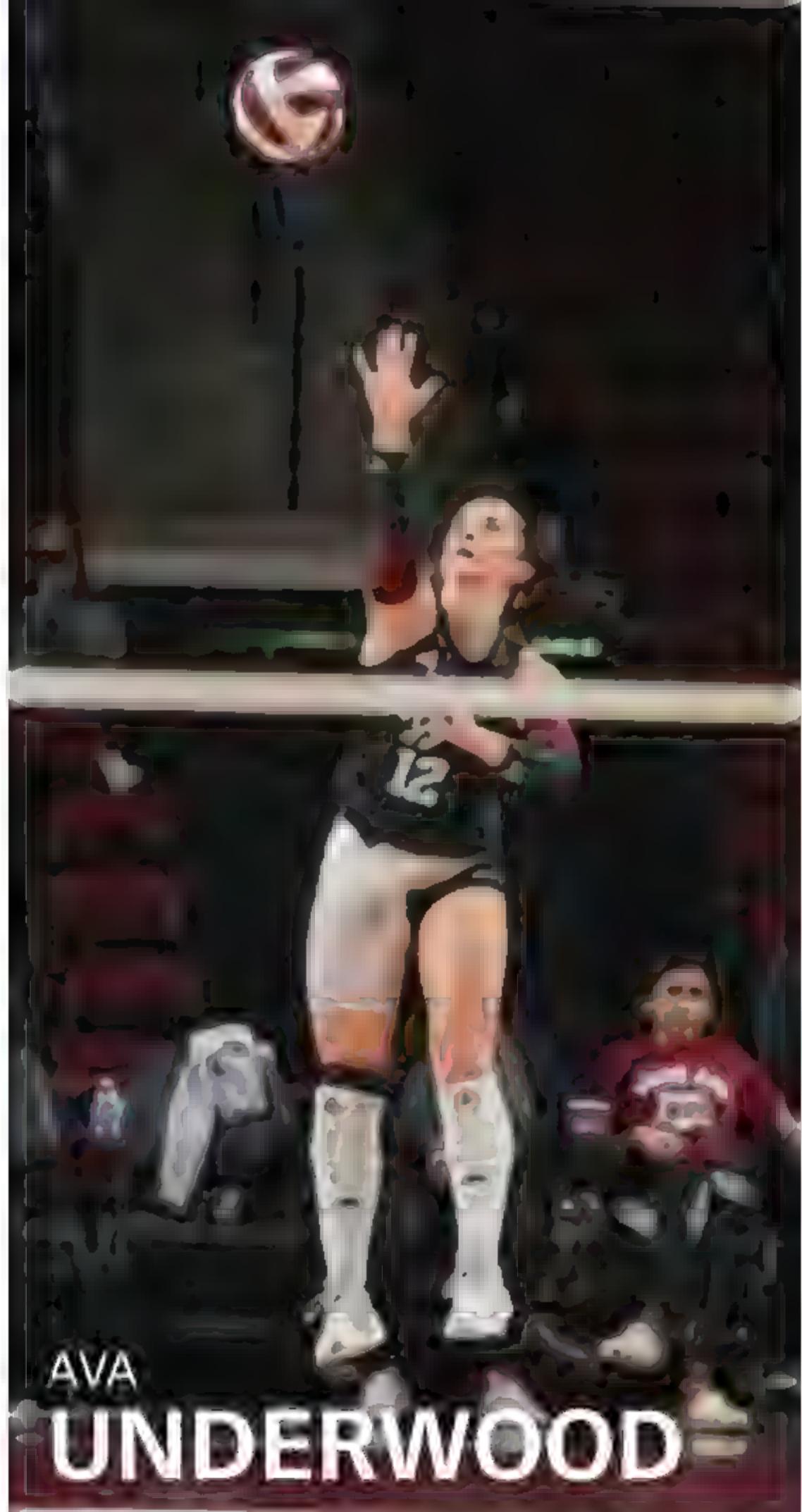
Buzz and the gang have built quite the resume as they've battled through a tough fall schedule. The Ags are #12 in the polls and have put together an 10-2 record with big wins over #21 Ohio State, #21 Creighton (who upset #1 Kansas) and Texas Tech. The Aggies open SEC play on January 4, 2025 vs tu at Reed Arena.

SWIMMING & DIVING

The Aggies concluded the fall portion of their season with a couple of first-place team finishes in the Art Adamson Invitational held here in Aggleland. Both squads collected numerous NCAA B-cut times and lowered multiple personal bests in their commanding wins.



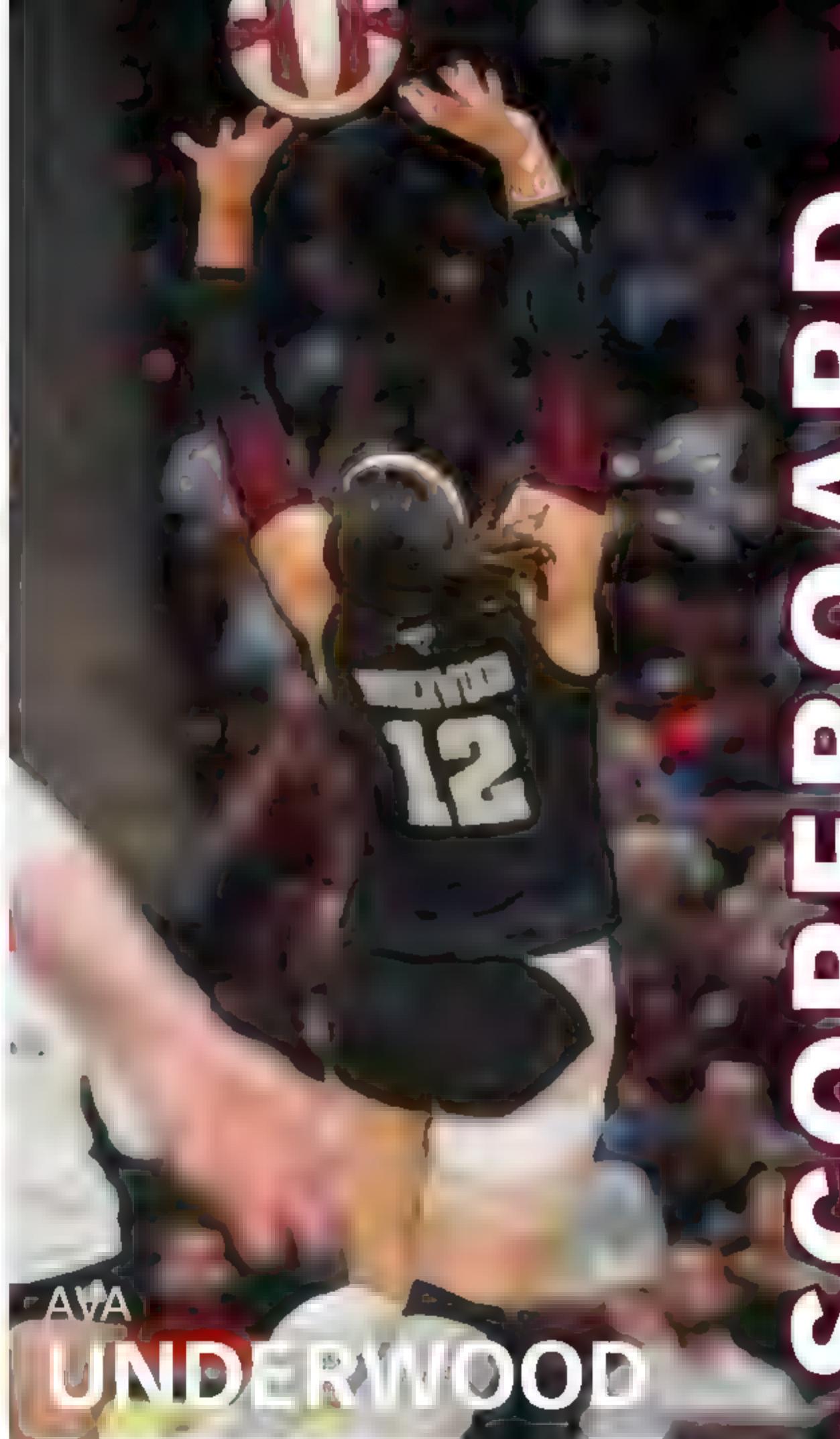
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EMILY
HELLMUTH



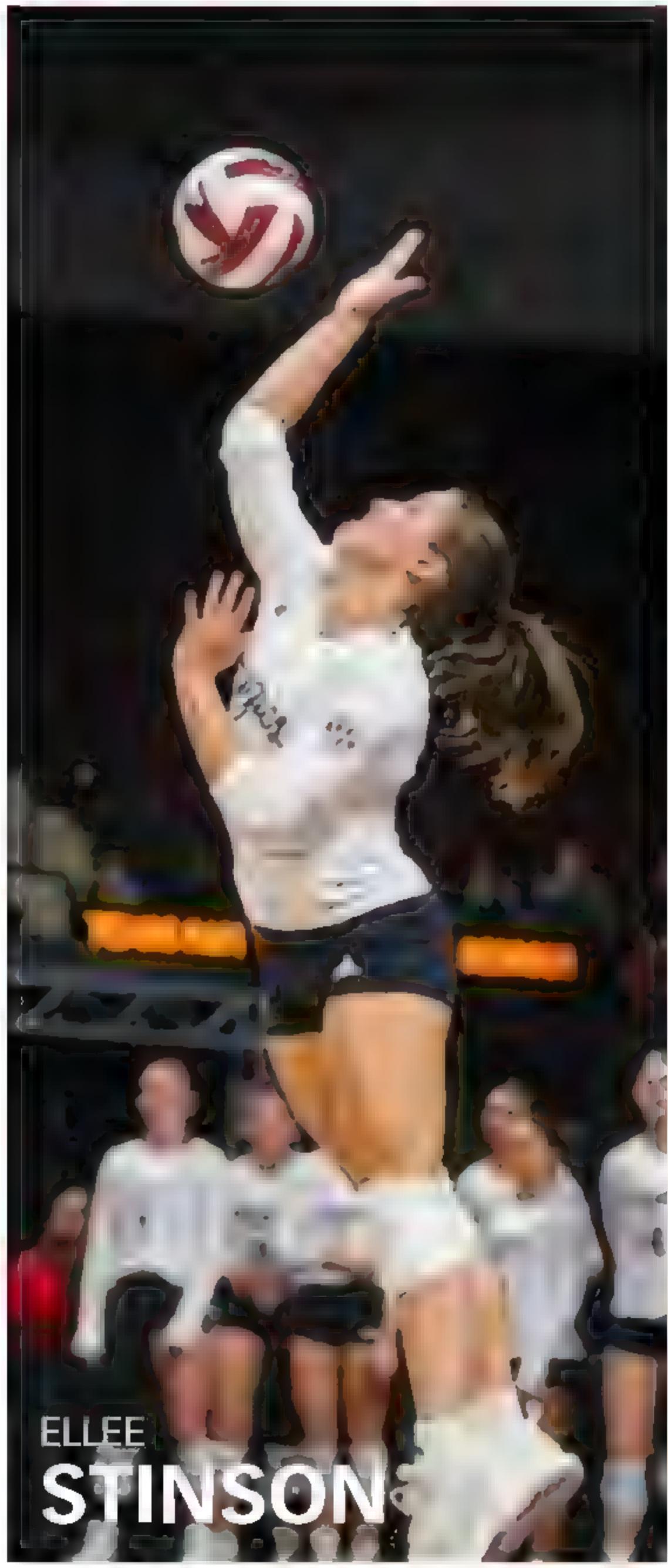
AVA
UNDERWOOD

VOLLEYBALL

In only his second year with the program, Head Coach Jamie Morrison led his team to a 19-7 regular season record, going 10-6 in the SEC. The highlight of the regular season was a huge upset win over the back-to-back defending national champ longhorns on their home court. The Aggies earned a 6-seed in the NCAA tournament and won two matches in Tempe, AZ to advance to the Sweet 16.



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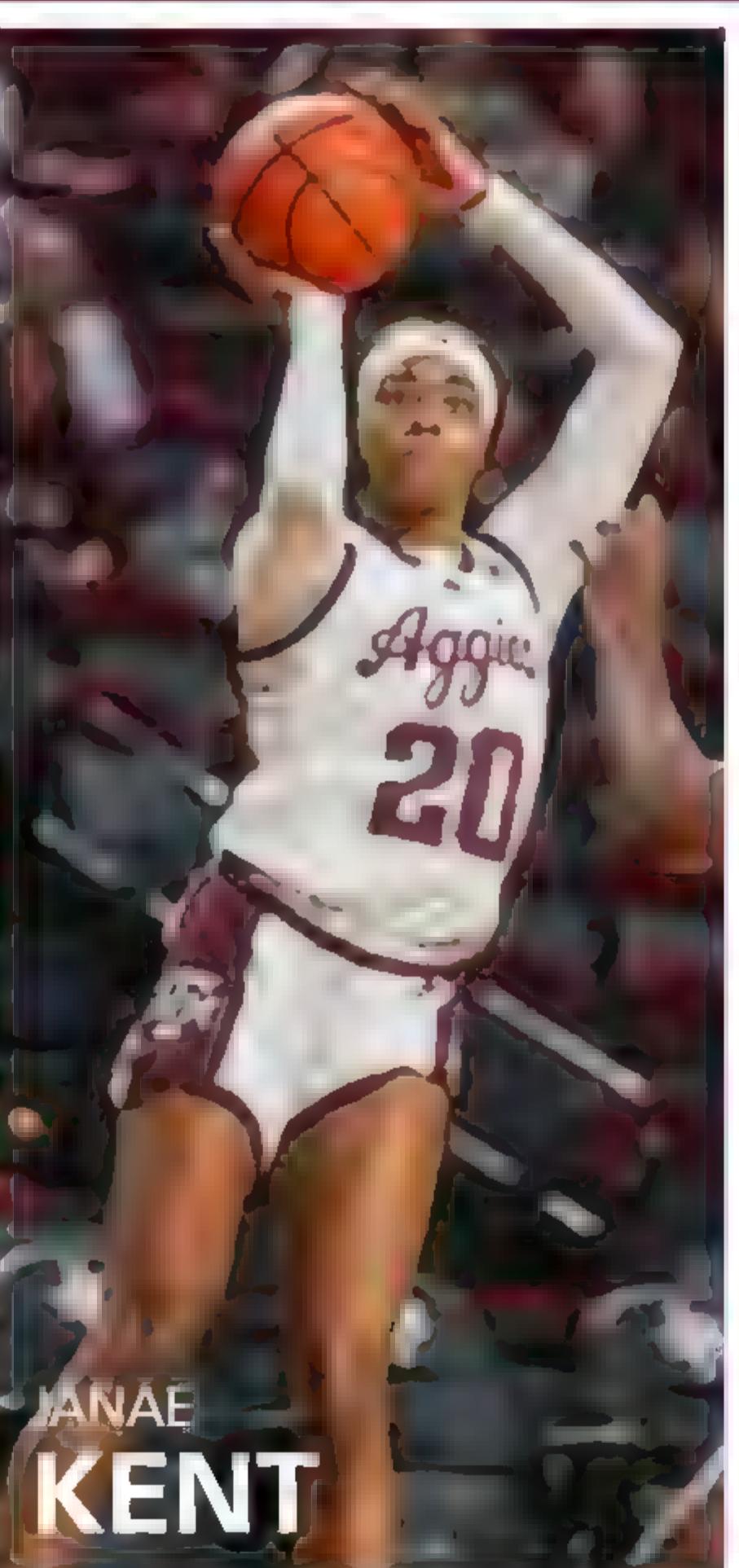
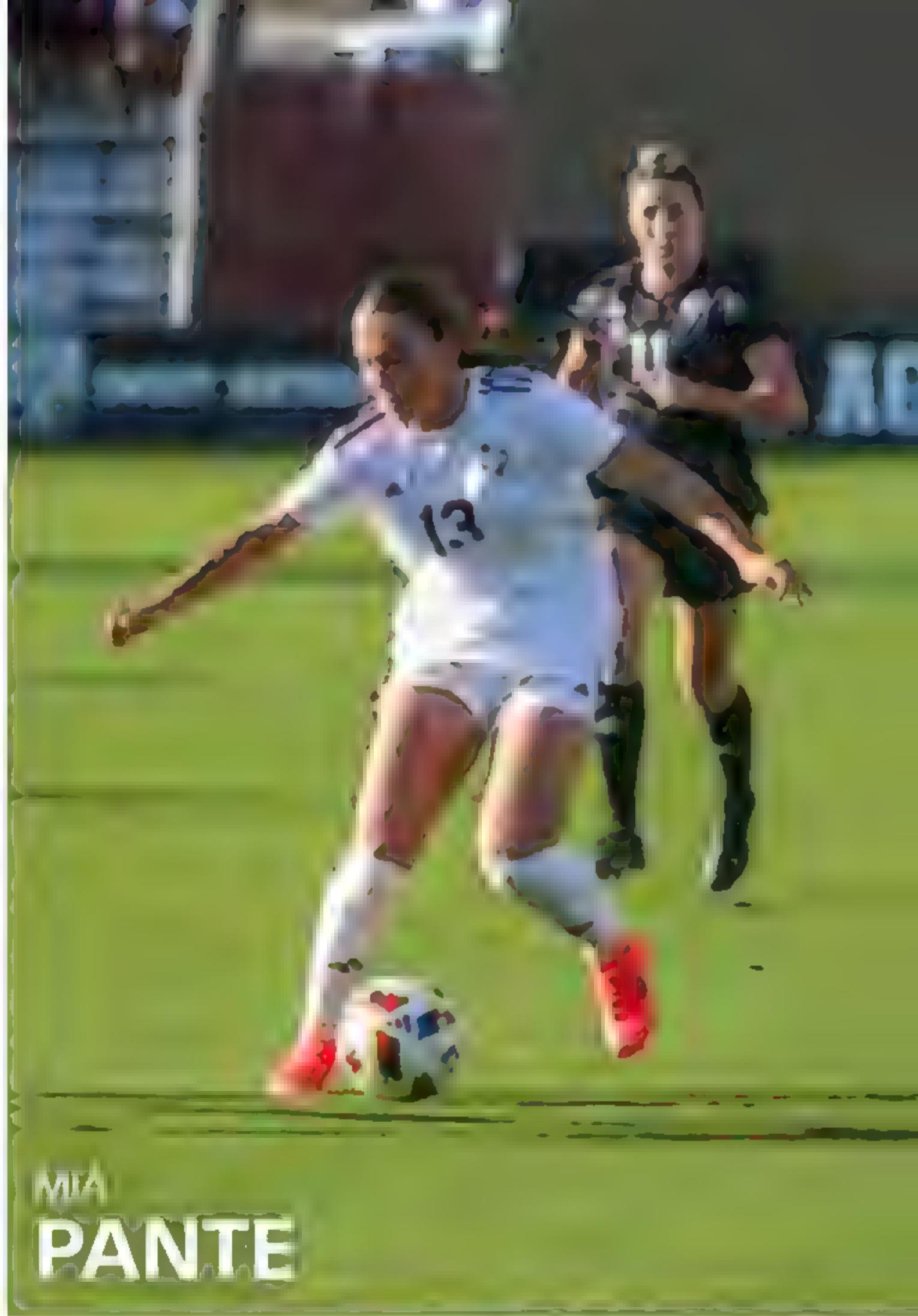


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FROM SIX-YEAR WALK-ON
TO ASSISTANT COACH

ALEX ZETTLER

SHOWS HARD WORK PAYS OFF

BY ROB HAVENS '88

In college athletics, a “walk-on” refers to an athlete who joins a team without receiving an athletic scholarship. Although they may not have the accolades that come with being a 5-star recruit, they add depth to the roster and provide competition on the scout team as they develop their skills with the hope of playing on the big stage. They work just as hard, if not harder, than scholarship athletes, without receiving money for tuition, books, or housing.

As a dad of a former football walk-on at A&M, I have great respect for all they go through and the sacrifices they make. When I found out that Alex Zettler had been hired as a defensive assistant for Texas A&M I was anxious to share his story. Alex was a six-year walk-on for the Aggies and he finished his playing days last fall. He is the first in program history to be a six-year walk-on.

Alex was born in Dallas, TX, and moved with his family from Waxahachie, TX to Utah when he was young. He played every sport as he grew up and was a quarterback in high school, earning 2018 Utah Best of State High School Athlete of the Year. He had a previous relationship with Noel Mazzone and came for a visit to A&M in 2017 during Kevin Sumlin’s last season. After Jimbo’s departure he was offered a preferred walk-on position and committed on the spot.

After arriving in Aggieland Zettler explained that he knew his job was. “To be a scout team guy, giving the best looks and developing myself and just trying to learn as much of the defense as I could and so I just kind of stuck to that plan,” Zettler said. He worked hard for three years without seeing the field on game day. He knew that playing time had to be earned and he was learning as much as he could so he would be ready when his number was called. “It was definitely a grind, but it was a good time. I felt like I was accomplishing what I was trying to do in those first three years because I won scout team player of the year one of those years. I was learning under Coach Elko for those three years and the jump from high school football to

Coach Elko is absolutely insane. So learning that was absolutely huge for me,” Zettler said.

Going into his fourth year Zettler felt like his body was in a good spot to be used. After looking around the talent in the safety room he felt like his best chance to earn playing time would be in special teams. Elko would tell him how to get on special teams and would help him out with that, so he started spending more time in special teams meetings and getting more reps with the squad. In the spring he got the opportunity to run with the ones and twos on special teams. When he started making plays on teams, Coach Elko moved him to the twos on safety. All of the knowledge he had learned in his first three years kicked in, and although he might not have the most talent, he had earned Elko’s trust to play in a game and he started to get some playing time. Zettler told us that although he was nervous at first he was excited and making plays on the field are experiences that he will never forget. He still remembers them like they happened yesterday.

Zettler wasn’t surprised when Elko got the chance to be a head coach, and he knew from watching him in action that he would be successful. It was under Elko’s tutelage that Alex knew one day he wanted to be a coach as well. So when Coach Elko returned, Zettler reached out to him and they met. When Zettler explained that he wanted to coach, Elko said, “We’ll figure it out!” Just a couple of weeks later Elko called back with an opportunity. He explained to him that it didn’t come with a big-name title like a defensive analyst or grad assistant, but he could learn how the coaching world operates. “The second I knew I could be a coach at A&M under Coach Elko, those were three checked boxes for me and I knew I had to take the job,” Zettler said.

His only regret is not having a seventh year as a player to be coached by this staff and play with these players. Alex is learning a lot and hopes to remain a part of the staff at Texas A&M for as long as he can. ■

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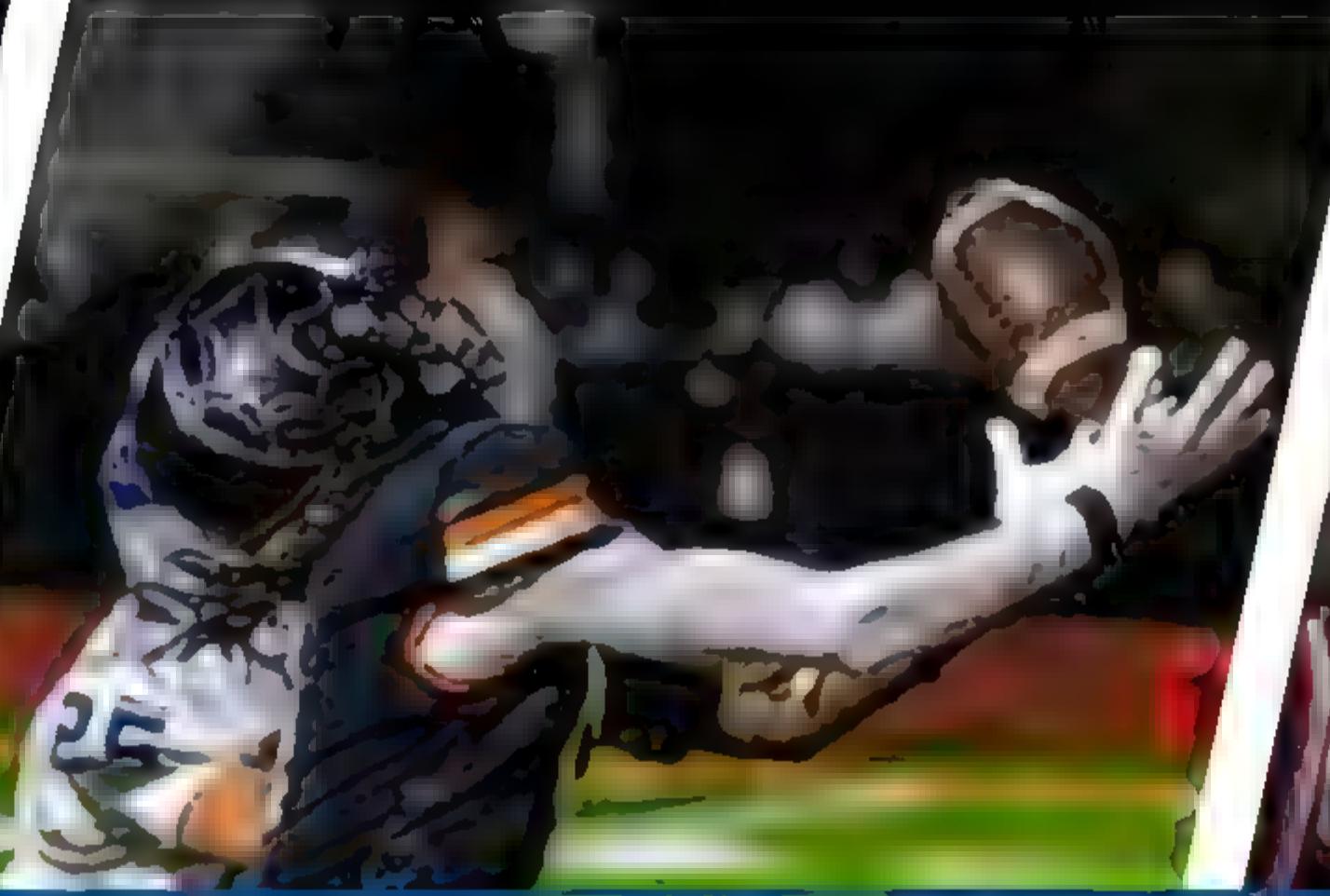
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ARMSTRONG

TIGHT END

HEIGHT 6'6"

WEIGHT 254

HOMETOWN (H.S.) JASPER, TX (JASPER)

Made 68 catches for 1,026 yards and 18 touchdowns as a three-year varsity letterman; As a senior he had 36 catches for 683 yards and seven touchdowns; In 2023 he made 26 catches for 268 yards and nine touchdowns, while leading Jasper to a 9-5 record and a UIL D-II state quarterfinal appearance; A multi-sport athlete

JAMAR



BEAL-GOINES

DEFENSIVE BACK

HEIGHT 6'0"

WEIGHT 180

HOMETOWN (H.S.) GOODYEAR, AZ (DESERT EDGE)

Arguably one of the top recruits in Arizona; Totaled 1,223 all-purpose yards, while making 72 tackles, 22 pass breakups and four interceptions; In 2022, he made 24 tackles, three blocked field goals and one interception; Also runs track boasting personal best times of 10.43 in the 100m, 21.41 in the 200m and 49.77 in the 400m

ADONYSS



CURRIE

DEFENSIVE BACK

HEIGHT 6'2"

WEIGHT 175

HOMETOWN (H.S.) LANCASTER, CA (QUARTZ HILL)

2024 Navy All-American Bowl and Polynesian Bowl selection; As a junior and senior he totaled 1,500-plus yards receiving and over 60 tackles, while scoring nearly 30 touchdowns; As a junior he made 47 catches for 865 yards and nine touchdowns, while registering 35 tackles, 4.0 tackles for loss, 3.0 sacks and four interceptions

MARCUS



GARCIA

OFFENSIVE LINE

HEIGHT 6'5"

WEIGHT 285

HOMETOWN (H.S.) DENTON, TX (DENTON RYAN)

Named an All-Area Offensive Lineman and 3-5A Second Team All-District; Totaled 42 pancakes, while not allowing a sack as he helped lead the Raiders to a Bi-District title in 2023; A dual-sport athlete that was a UIL state qualifier in the discus as a junior, as well as an AAU National Champion and USATF National Champion in 2023

BRADY



HART

QUARTERBACK

HEIGHT 6'4"

WEIGHT 185

HOMETOWN (H.S.) COCOA, FL (COCOA)

Completed 509-of-757 for 7,476 yards and 78 touchdowns in his career for the Tigers; In 2024 he threw for 212-of-308 for 3,592 yards and 36 touchdowns; As a first-year starter in 2023 he completed 288-of-437 for 3,759 yards and 41 scores, while leading the Tigers to a 14-1 record and a FHSAA 2A state title

KELSHAUN

JOHNSON

WIDE RECEIVER

HEIGHT 5'11" WEIGHT 165 HOMETOWN (H.S.) HITCHCOCK, TX (HITCHCOCK)

Played varsity all four seasons leading the Bulldogs to district titles in 2022 and 2024; Earned First Team All-District honors each season; Multi-sport athlete that was a starter on the state champion basketball team and school-record holder in the 100m at 10.49

RASHAD

JOHNSON JR.

DEFENSIVE BACK

HEIGHT 6'2" WEIGHT 190 HOMETOWN (H.S.) BUSHNELL, FL (SOUTH SUMTER)

Four-year varsity two-way standout that totaled 886 all-purpose yards and 15 touchdowns, while adding 186 tackles, nine interceptions, 16 passes defended and three blocked field goals in his career; As a senior he made 63 tackles, including 24 solo takedowns and five interceptions

MARCO

JONES

DEFENSIVE LINE

HEIGHT 6'5" WEIGHT 245 HOMETOWN (H.S.) DUBLIN, CA (SAN RAMON VALLEY)

Totaled nearly 425 tackles, including 214 solo takedowns, 53.0 tackles for loss, 13.0 sacks, while adding seven forced fumbles, five fumble recoveries and six interceptions in his career; Was named Cal-Hi State Junior of the Year in 2023 after making 166 tackles, 15.0 tackles for loss, 2.5 sacks, three interceptions and three forced fumbles

NELSON

MCGUIRE

OFFENSIVE LINE

HEIGHT 6'5" WEIGHT 315 HOMETOWN (H.S.) DALLAS, TX (MIDLOTHIAN)

Helped pave the way for a Panther offense that averaged 264.4 rushing yards per game in 2024 before finishing 10-3 that included a regional UIL 5A DI playoff appearance; Also competed in track & field with a personal best 41-11 mark in the shot put

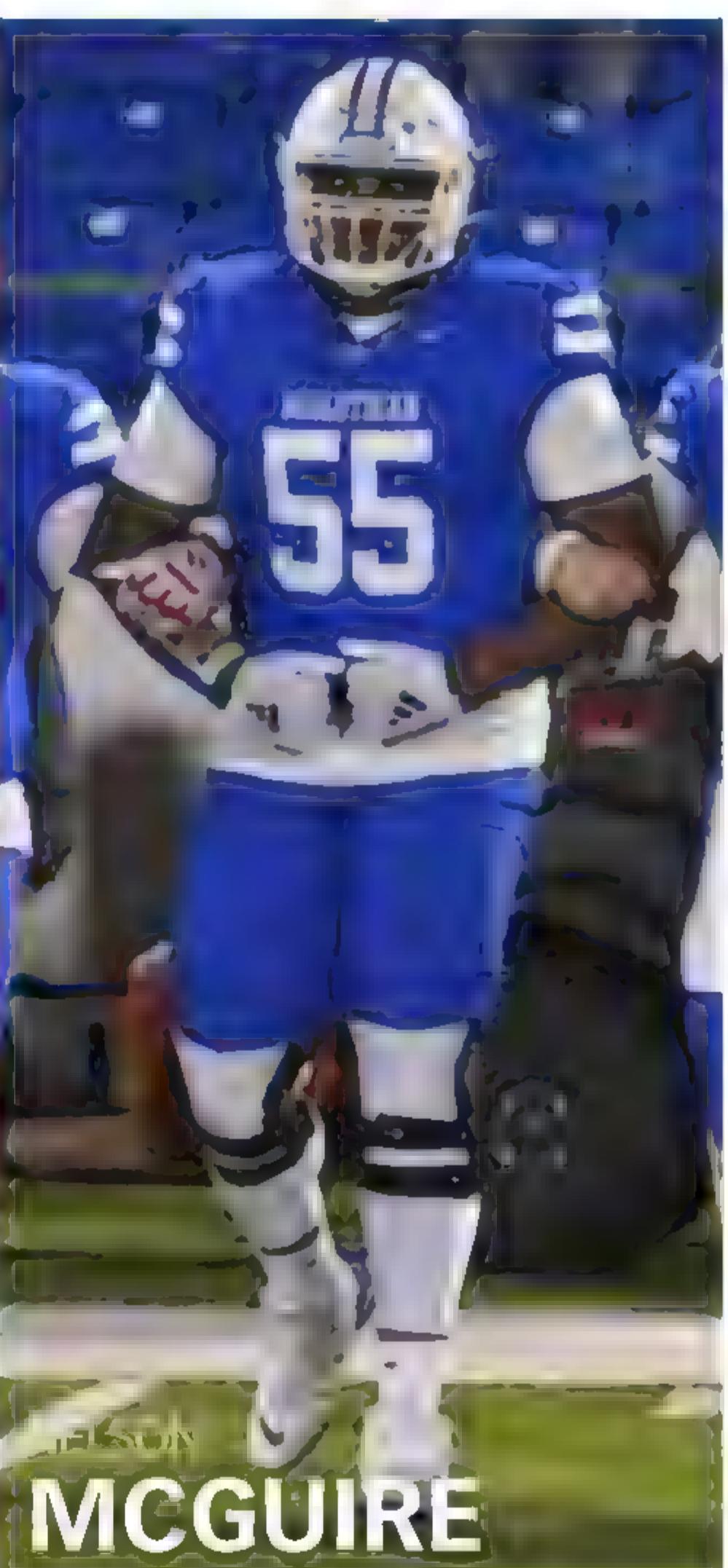
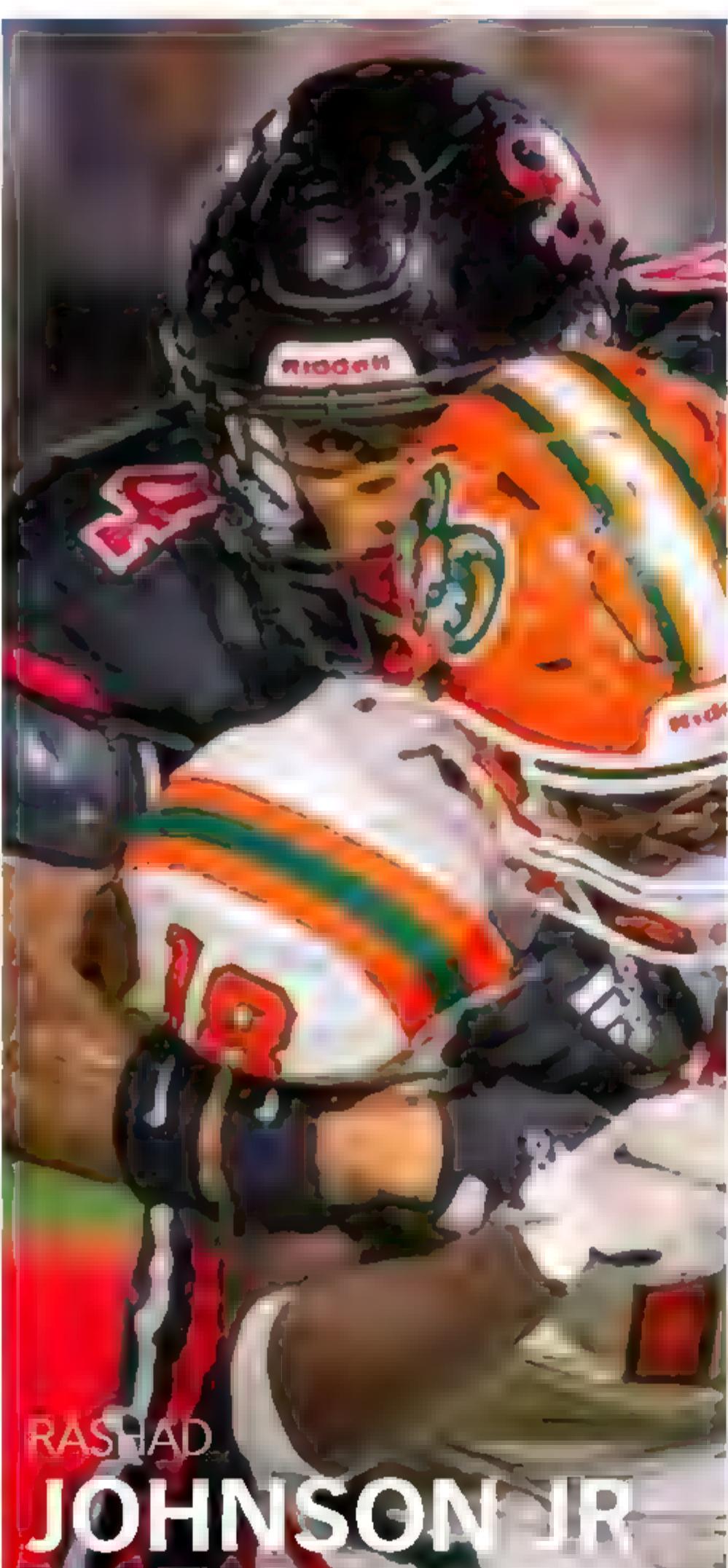
NOAH

MIKHAIL

LINEBACKER

HEIGHT 6'3" WEIGHT 225 HOMETOWN (H.S.) LA VERNE, CA (BONITA)

2024 Navy All-American and Polynesian Bowl selection; Three-time Max Preps All-American, two-time All-CIF and two-time CIF League Defensive MVP; Was a two-way standout that totaled 446 tackles, including 54.0 tackles for loss, 11.0 sacks, five interceptions, while adding over 2,000 all-purpose yards and 29 touchdowns in his career





ELI
MORCOS



MORCOS

QUARTERBACK



JAMARIION
MORROW



MORROW

RUNNING BACK



JOSHUA
MOSES

OFFENSIVE LINE



HEIGHT 6'1"	WEIGHT 200	HOMETOWN (H.S.) MONTGOMERY, TX (LAKE CREEK)
-------------	------------	---

Threw for 2,144 yards with 15 TD's in just ten games of his senior season; Also ran for 471 yards with 6 touchdown carries; He punted 14 times averaging 45.2 yards/punt; He completed over 63% of his passes; As a junior he threw for 1,531 yards and 18 touchdowns

HEIGHT 5'10"	WEIGHT 190	HOMETOWN (H.S.) MEMPHIS, TN (MELROSE)
--------------	------------	---------------------------------------

As a senior he played running back, wide receiver and quarterback, while helping lead the Wildcats to an undefeated district title and Melrose's first TSSAA 4A state title game appearance since 1998; In 2023 he accounted for 1,212 all-purpose yards and 12 scores, while adding 24 tackles, 2.0 tackles for loss and four interceptions

HEIGHT 6'3"	WEIGHT 325	HOMETOWN (H.S.) HOUSTON, TX (LEGACY THE SCHOOL OF SPORT SCIENCES)
-------------	------------	---

Was named a finalist for the Dave Campbell's Texas Football Super Team in 2024; Helped lead the Titans to a 7-4 record in 2024 and an 8-1 mark in 2023; Also competes in track & field with personal best marks of 117-10 in the discus and 39-11 in the shot put

HEIGHT 6'2"	WEIGHT 220	HOMETOWN (H.S.) DRAPER, UT (CORNER CANYON)
-------------	------------	--

Totalled 28 catches for 732 yards and 10 touchdowns in two seasons as a Charger; Played the 2022 season at West Jordan High School where he caught 34 passes for 699 yards and eight touchdowns; Also runs track and won the 100m and 200m state title as a junior, while his 100m time of 10.36 broke a 43-year old Utah record

HEIGHT 6'5"	WEIGHT 300	HOMETOWN (H.S.) CYPRESS, TX (BRIDGELAND)
-------------	------------	--

Earned First Team All-District 16-6A honors as a sophomore, junior and senior, while helping lead Bridgeland to district titles each season; Has helped pave the way as the Bears have averaged nearly 225 yards rushing per game with a 12-1 record and are in the quarterfinal round of the UIL 6A DI playoffs



JONTE
NEWMAN

OFFENSIVE LINE



TK

NORMAN

WIDE RECEIVER

HEIGHT 6'0"	WEIGHT 170	HOMETOWN (H.S.) MONTGOMERY, AL (CARVER)
-------------	------------	---

Amassed 75 catches for 1,365 yards and 16 touchdowns as a two-year starter; As a senior he averaged 20.3 yards per catch and finished the season with 31 catches for 629 yards and six touchdowns; 44 catches for 736 yards and 10 touchdowns as a junior; Dual-sport athlete that competes in track & field with a personal best long jump of 22-6

DEYJHON

PETTAWAY

DEFENSIVE BACK

HEIGHT 6'0"	WEIGHT 185	HOMETOWN (H.S.) KATY, TX (PAETOW)
-------------	------------	-----------------------------------

Was named to the 2024 Touchdown Club of Houston Preseason Team after registering 80 tackles, four pass breakups and one interception to garner District 19-6A First Team honors as a junior; As a sophomore he made 26 tackles, including 1.0 tackle for loss, one interception and one fumble recovery; Dual-sport athlete

DEONDRAE

RIDEN JR.

RUNNING BACK

HEIGHT 5'11"	WEIGHT 198	HOMETOWN (H.S.) DeSOTO, TX (DeSOTO)
--------------	------------	-------------------------------------

He owns DeSoto's career rushing record with 4,250-plus yards and has scored nearly 60 rushing touchdowns in four seasons; As a senior he's ran for 1,880 yards on 234 carries and 27 touchdowns; Ran for 1,044 yards on 139 carries and 12 touchdowns in 2023; As a sophomore he was named the District 11-6A Offensive Newcomer of the Year



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KELVION

RIGGINS

LINEBACKER

HEIGHT 6'1"	WEIGHT 210	HOMETOWN (H.S.) FORNEY, TX (FORNEY)
-------------	------------	-------------------------------------

Totaled 172 tackles, including 83 solo takedowns, 14.0 tackles for loss and 8.0 sacks, while adding 21 quarterback hurries as a junior and senior; Helped lead Forney to a 5A DI state semifinalist appearance after earning 7-5A Second Team All-District honors in 2023

LANDON

RINK

DEFENSIVE LINE

HEIGHT 6'3"	WEIGHT 280	HOMETOWN (H.S.) CYPRESS, TX (CY-FAIR)
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Totaled 255 tackles, including 86.5 tackles for loss and 34.0 sacks, while adding 80 quarterback hurries in four seasons; Was named the 17-6A District Defensive MVP after finishing his junior season with 70 tackles and 15.0 sacks; Also competes in track & field with a personal best 47-2 in the shot put and 140-11 in the discus

LAMONT

ROGERS

OFFENSIVE LINE



HEIGHT 6'6"

WEIGHT 330

HOMETOWN (H.S.) MESQUITE, TX (HORN)

2024 Navy All-American Bowl selection; Earned first team all-district honors as a senior, junior and sophomore; As a sophomore he helped pave the way for the Jaguars to an 8-3 record and a UIL 6A D1 playoff appearance; A multi-sport athlete that also played basketball and soccer

DJ

SANDERS

DEFENSIVE LINE



HEIGHT 6'3"

WEIGHT 315

HOMETOWN (H.S.) BELLVILLE, TX (BELLVILLE)

Has totaled over 304 tackles, including 88 solo takedowns, 42.5 tackles for loss, 36.5 sacks, while adding 51 quarterback hurries, five forced fumbles and five fumble recoveries in four season; As a junior he totaled 115 tackles, 28 tackles for loss and 15 sacks to earn Dave Campbell's Texas Football Super Team recognition

COBEY

SELLERS

DEFENSIVE BACK



HEIGHT 6'0"

WEIGHT 170

HOMETOWN (H.S.) HOUSTON, TX (SHADOW CREEK)

Made 15 tackles, including 11 solo takedowns, while adding two interceptions, two passes defended, one forced fumble and one fumble recovery as a senior; Was a two-way star as a junior completing 58-of-82 passes for 956 yards, 17 touchdowns, while making 12 tackles and one forced fumble on defense

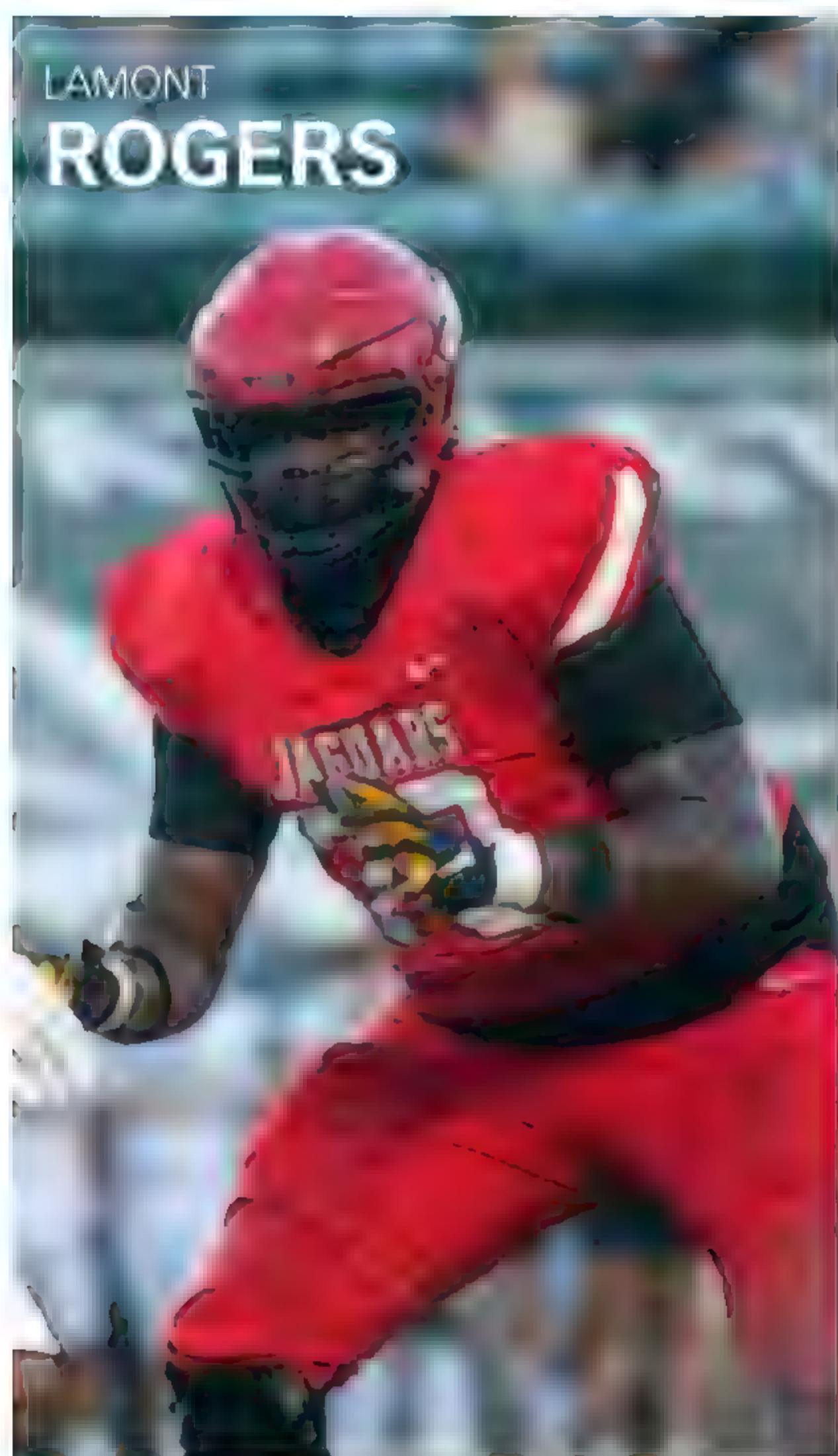


PHOTO COURTESY OF DORA MELENDEZ, THE PRIDE YEARBOOK



PHOTO COURTESY OF KAREN FISHBECK

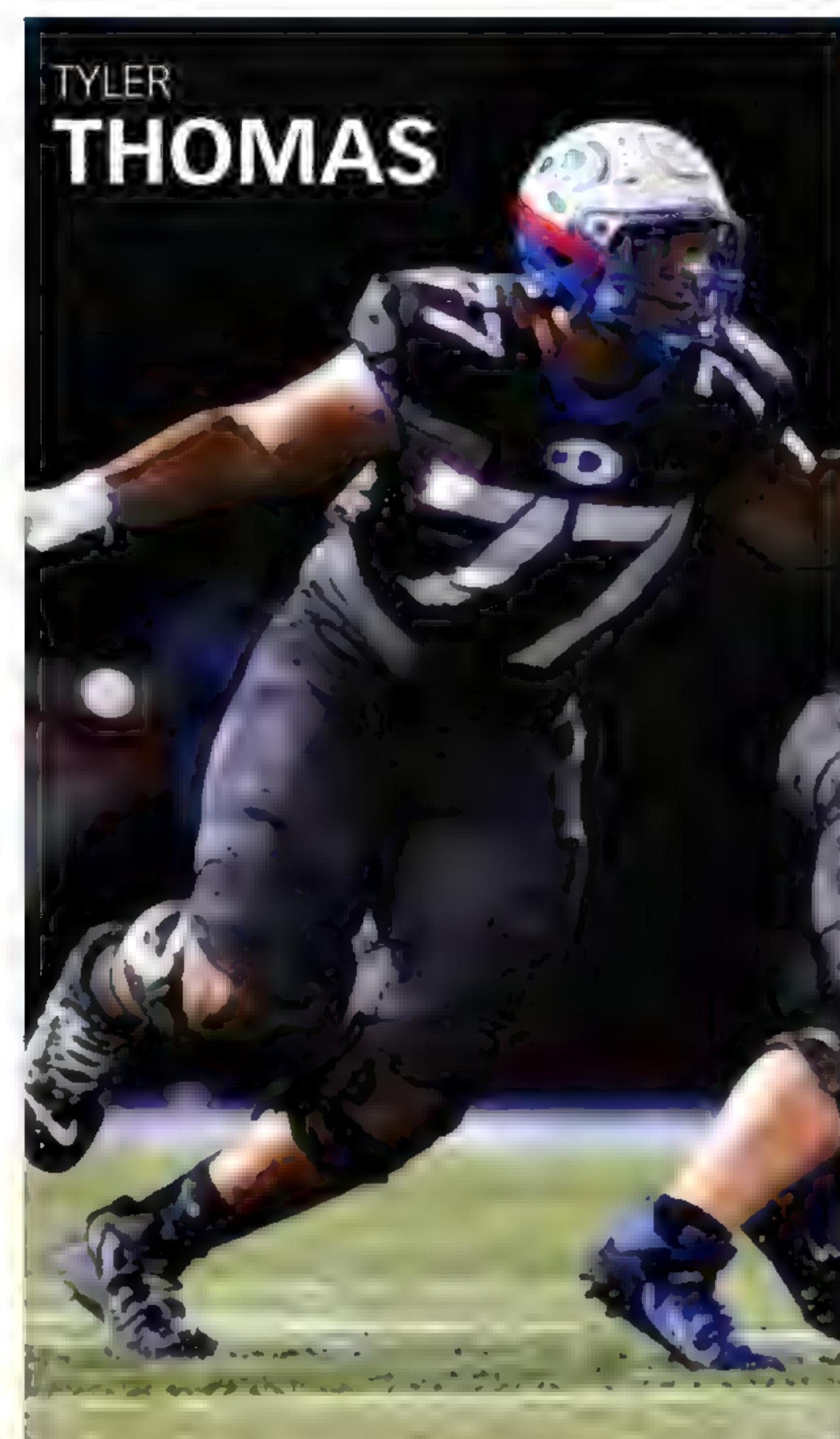


PHOTO COURTESY OF DUTTIE KROSS SMITH

CHACE

SIMS

DEFENSIVE LINE



HEIGHT 6'3"

WEIGHT 295

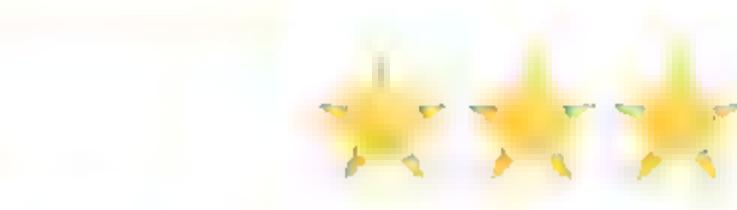
HOMETOWN (H.S.) HOUSTON, TX (RANDLE)

In 2023 he made 86 tackles, 18.0 tackles for loss, 11.0 sacks, as well as 11 quarterback hurries and two forced fumbles to help lead Randle to an 11-2 record and UIL 5A DII Regional appearance; Also excels in track & field competing in shot put with a personal best toss of 47-3

TYLER

THOMAS

OFFENSIVE LINE



HEIGHT 6'4"

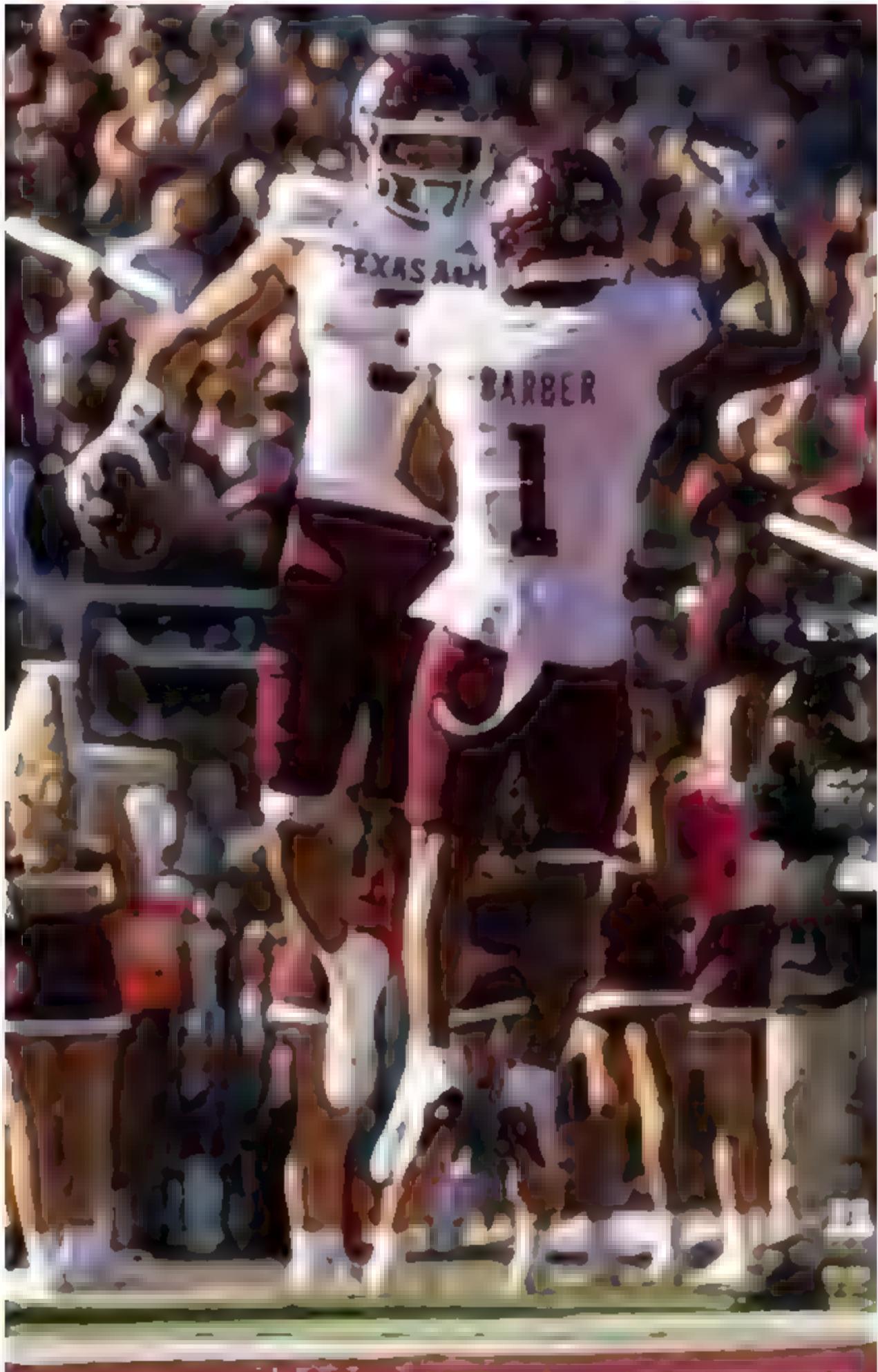
WEIGHT 330

HOMETOWN (H.S.) DICKINSON, TX (DICKINSON)

Three-year varsity letterman and helped lead the Gators to the UIL 6A D1 playoffs each season; As a senior he helped pave the way for a 1,500-plus yard rusher as Dickinson averaged 250.7 rushing yards per game; Also competed in track & field as a sophomore finishing with a season-best shot put of 40-11.5



2024 FOOTBALL REWIND



GAME 7



TEXAS A&M 34 - MISSISSIPPI STATE 24

The Aggies continued their winning ways on a road trip to Starkville to take on the Bulldogs. Conner Weigman completed 15 of 25 passes with a touchdown to lead the Aggies to their fourth straight SEC win. After giving up the first touchdown of the day, the Aggies drove the length of the field and capped off an impressive 74-yard drive with a perfect pass from Weigman to Noah Thomas to tie the score at seven. Le'Veon Moss would give the Aggies their first lead of the game with a powerful nine-yard touchdown run, putting the Ags up 14-7. The Dogs would add a field goal before Amari Daniels increased the lead to 21-10 on a six-yard touchdown run of his own. The Dogs would not go away, adding another score before half to make it 21-17. A Randy Bond field goal and Moss's second touchdown of the day gave the Aggies the lead for good. State would get one more touchdown, but with six minutes to play Bond iced the game with a 44-yard field goal. On the defensive side, Taurean York had a career-high 12 tackles and Scooby Williams had a game-changing interception - the first of his career.

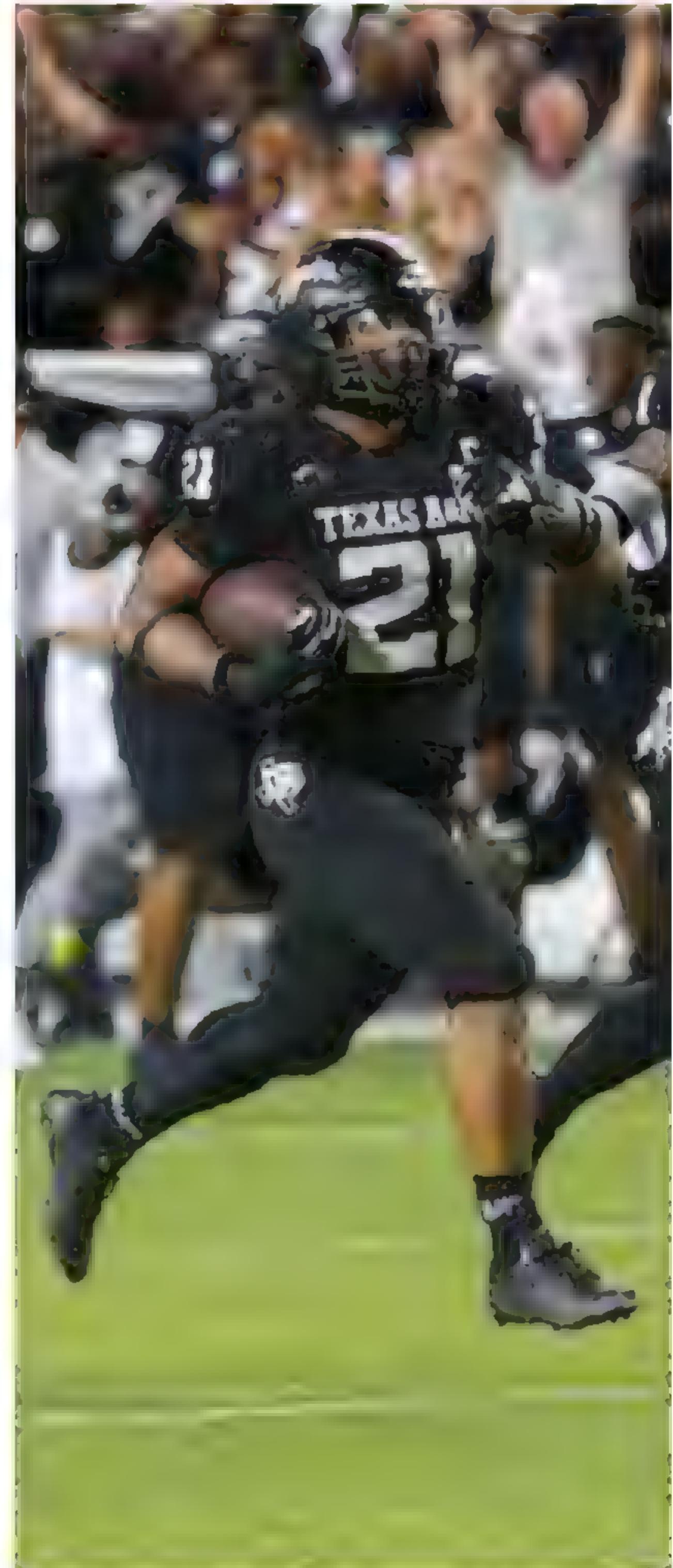
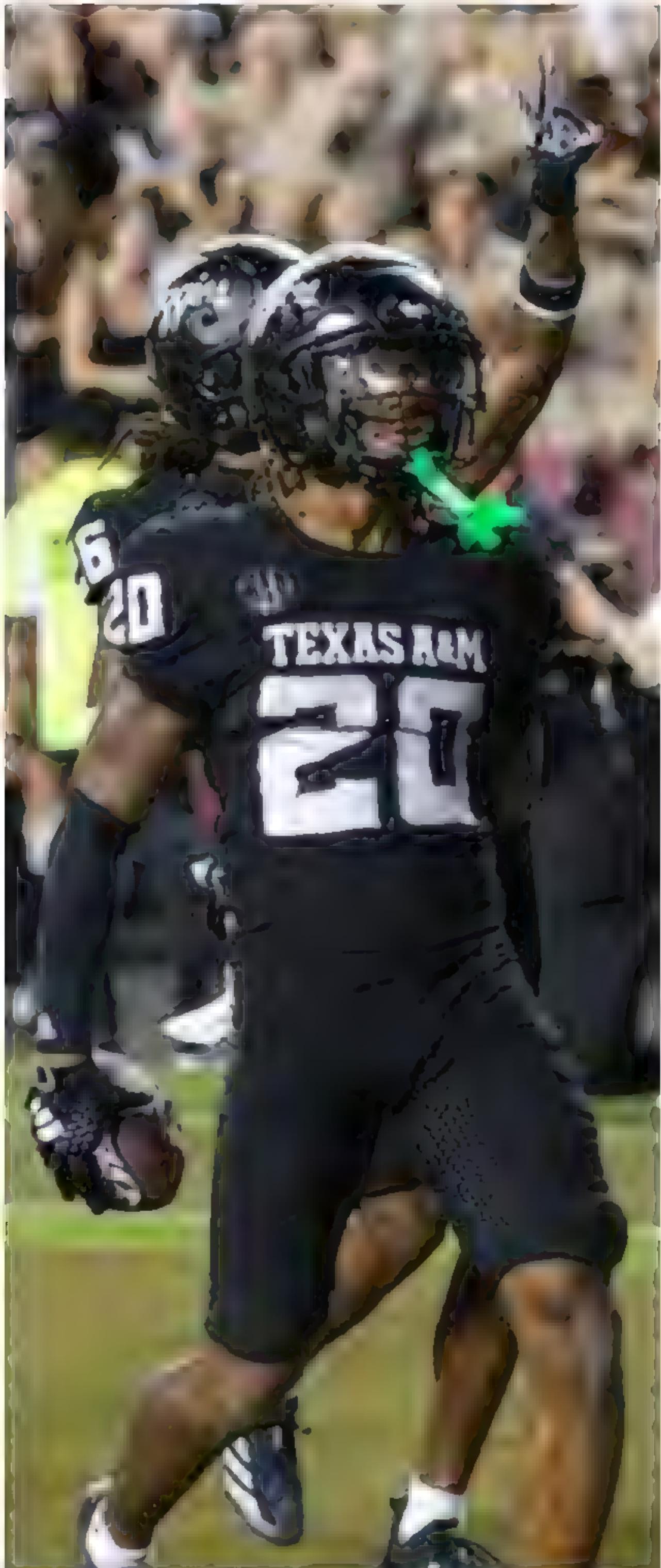
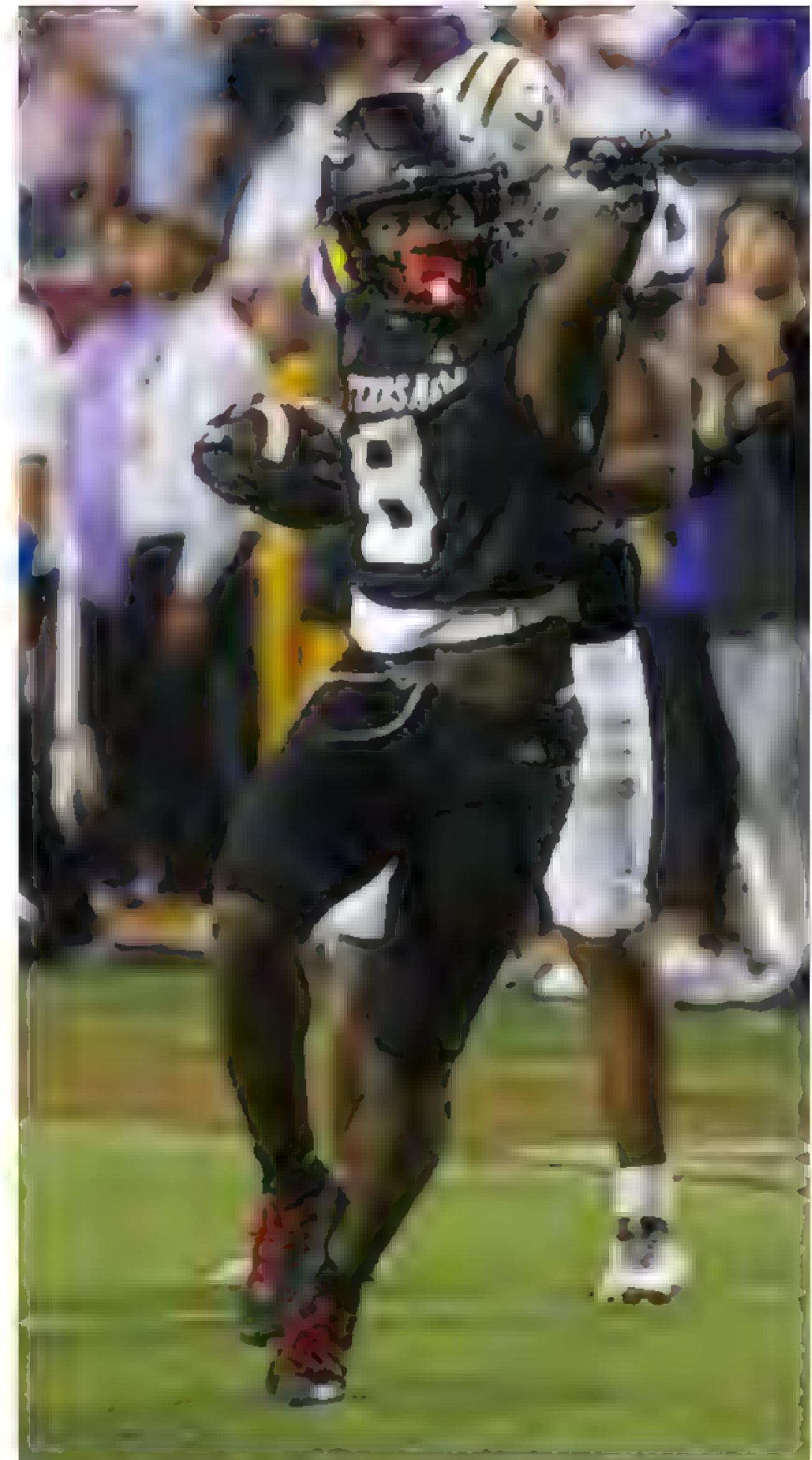


GAME 8

LSU

TEXAS A&M 38 - LSU 23

The Aggies took the field donning alternate black jerseys, pants and helmets with a new Aggie logo to the delight of a sold-out crowd of over 108,000 fans. The "Black Out Game" was a tale of two halves. The Aggies struggled in the first, trailing 17-7 with only a Le'Veon Moss touchdown to show on the scoreboard. But the second half was all Aggies, thanks to two interceptions by BJ Mayes and a coming-out party for Marcel Reed. With 8:17 left in the third, Mayes intercepted a pass and set up the Aggies on the Tiger's eight-yard line. Reed entered the game and raced around the corner and into the endzone to give the Aggies new life. On the next Aggie possession, Reed would once again find paydirt with a little help from his teammates as they pushed him into the endzone. After a second Mayes interception, Reed scored his third touchdown as he pulled the ball and ran untouched up the middle to put the Aggies up 28-17. Reed found Noah Thomas down the middle for a 54-yard pass completion and Moss wrapped up the scoring, bullying his way into the endzone for his second touchdown. Taurean York would put the game on ice with an interception at 6:31 left in the contest.



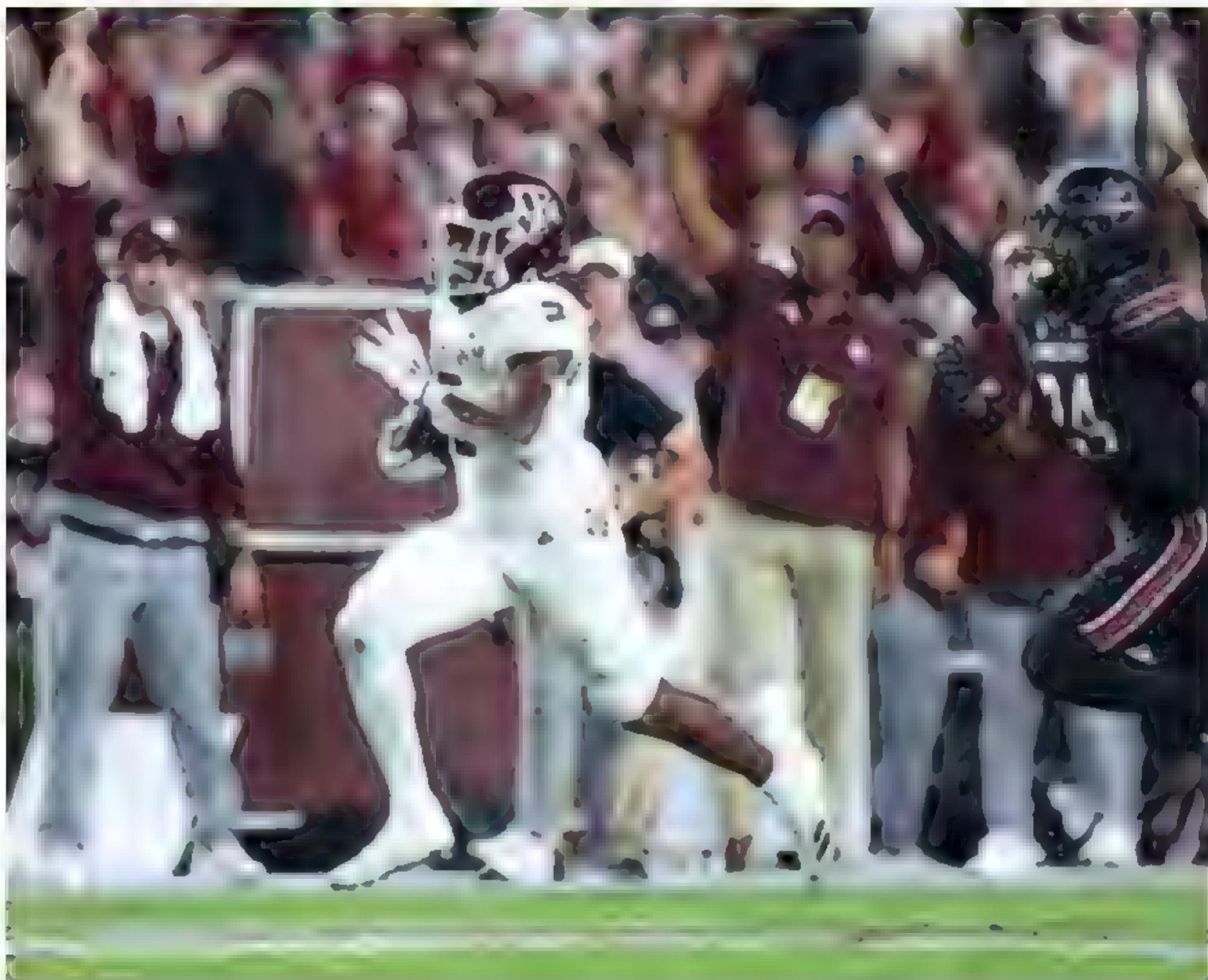


GAME 9



SOUTH CAROLINA 44 - TEXAS A&M 20

The Aggies entered game 9 alone at the top of the SEC, but a night game in Columbia against a motivated team with a stellar running back resulted in the first conference loss of the season. Marcel Reed got his first start, and the Gamecocks game-planned to make someone else beat them by setting up their defense to keep him from running loose down the field. South Carolina would jump out to a 14-0 lead and gain all the momentum. A 52 and 55-yard field goal by Randy Bond kept the Aggies close, and an Amari Daniels 56-yard touchdown and Jabre Barber 2-yard touchdown reception gave the Aggies a 20-17 lead. The Cocks would tie the game just before the half with a 44-yard field goal. South Carolina would dominate the second half aided by a pair of Aggie turnovers. They scored three touchdowns and a field goal to win the game, 44-20. Sanders, Sellers and Adaway III would run for a combined 286 yards and three touchdowns on the Aggies. Reed completed 18 of 28 passes in his first start for 206 yards and a touchdown. Le'Veon Moss suffered a season-ending injury during the game.

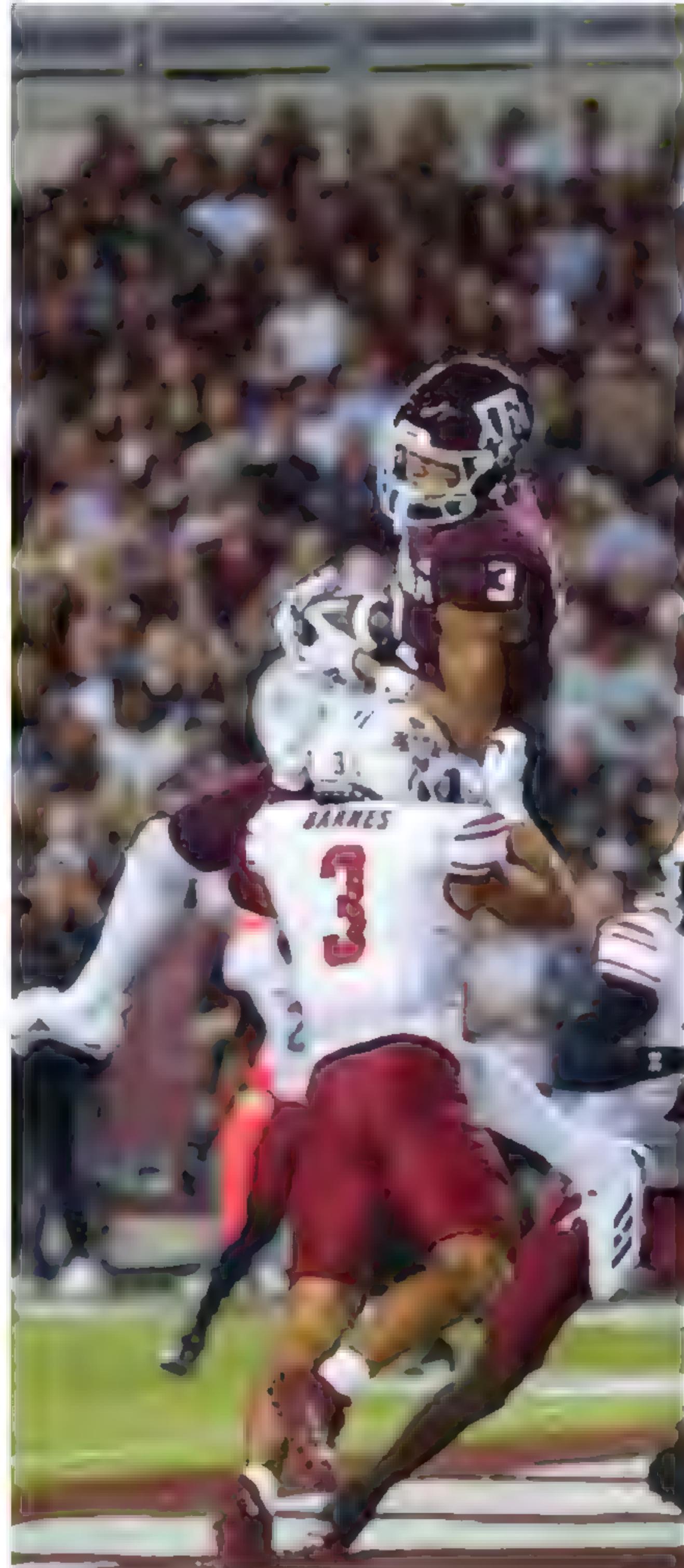
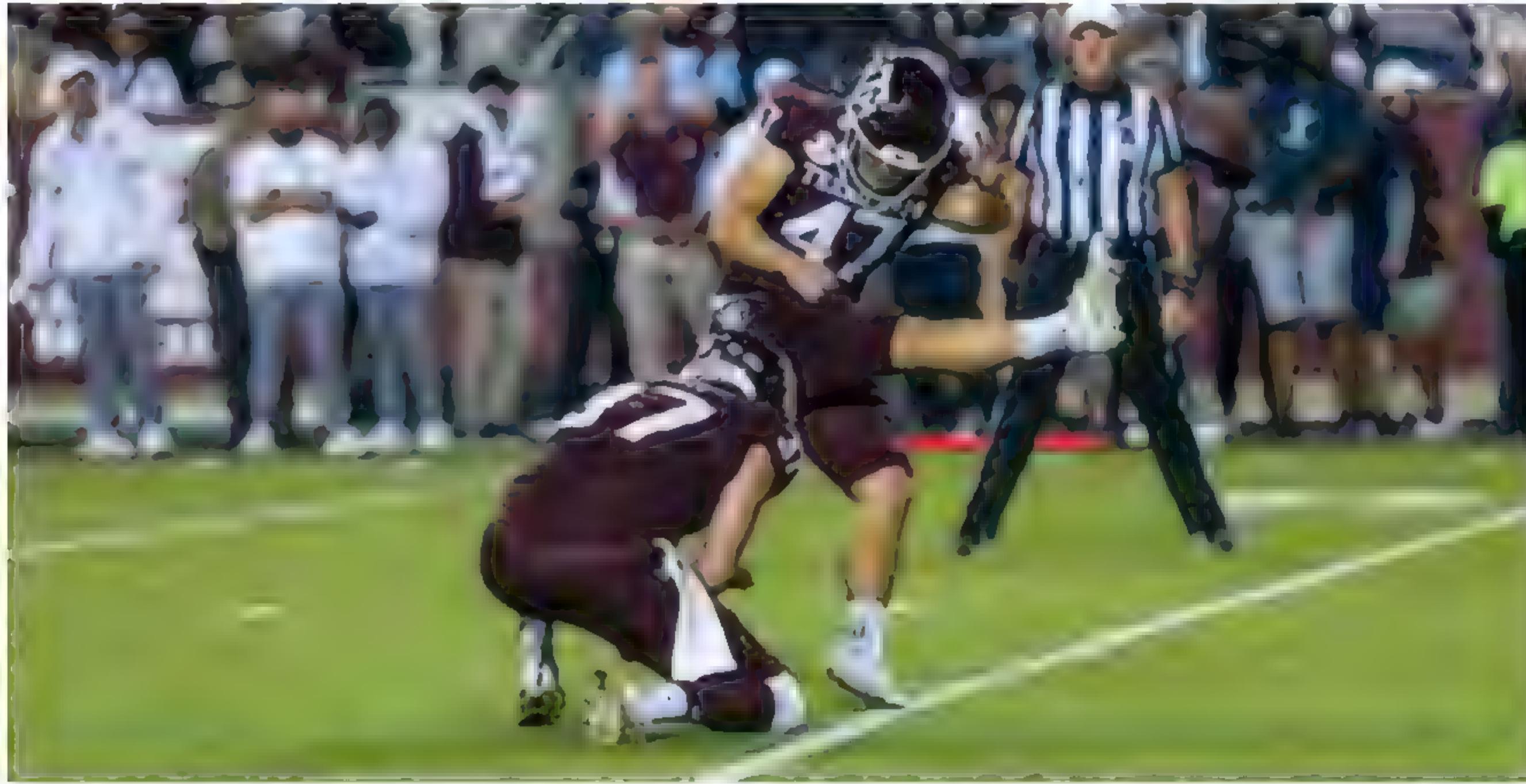
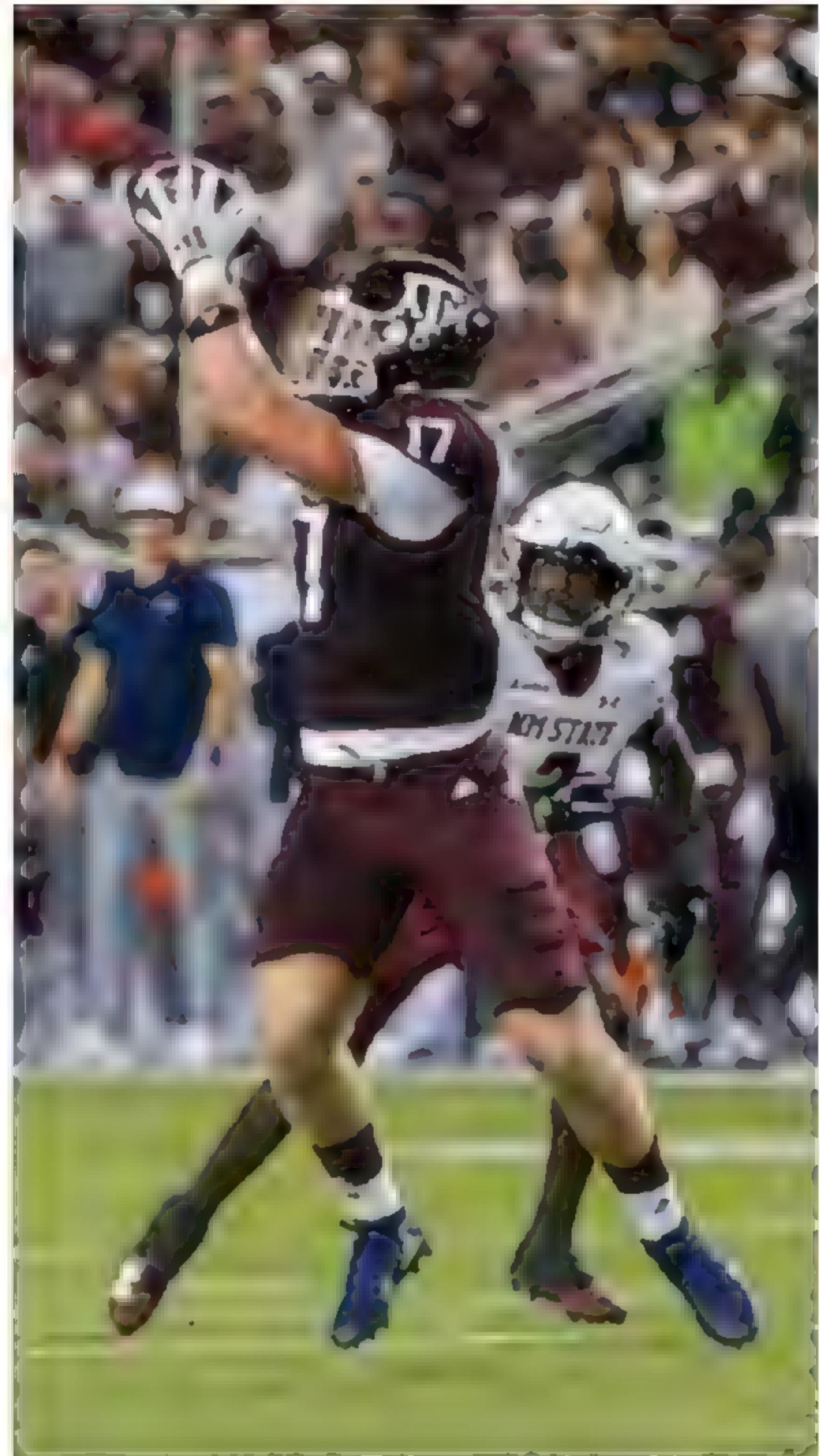


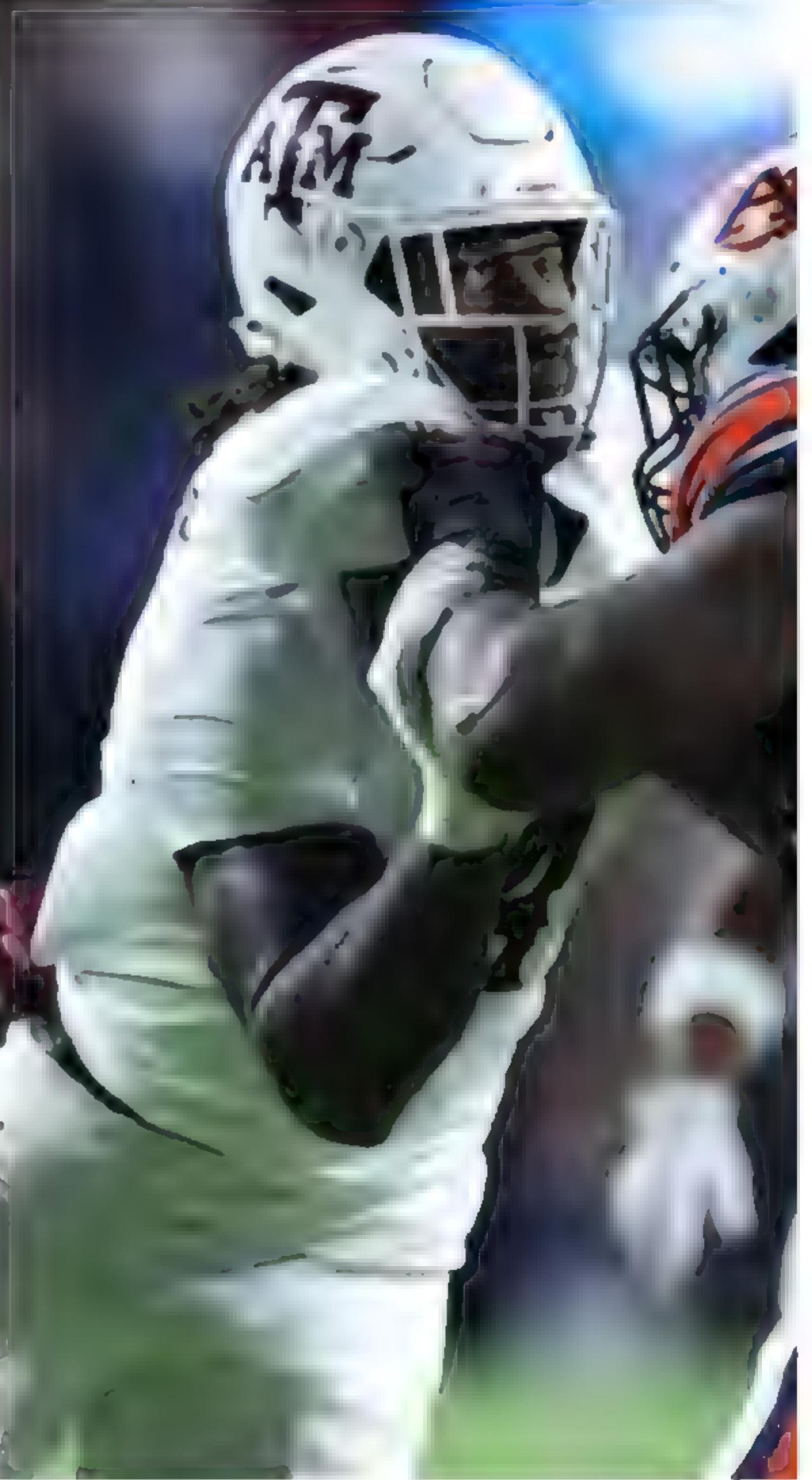
GAME 10



TEXAS A&M 38 - NEW MEXICO STATE 3

The Aggies versus Aggies game was just what the doctor ordered as our team bounced back with a dominating performance that allowed most of the team to play on the field. In his second start, Marcel Reed connected on 20 of 31 passes for 268 yards, two touchdown passes and one rushing score. Our Swedish secret weapon Theo Melin Ohrstrom had a career night, with five catches for 111 yards. With Moss sidelined with an injury, Amari Daniels and EJ Smith ran for 84 and 60 yards respectively. Texas A&M made quick work out of New Mexico State, scoring 17 points in the first stanza thanks to a 16-yard touchdown catch by Noah Thomas and a 71-yard scamper by Daniels that gave the Ags a 14-0 lead. Bond added a 37-yard field goal before Moose Muhammad III got in on the action with a six-yard touchdown catch from Reed. Marcel added a fourth-quarter score when he called his own number and raced into the endzone from five yards out. Conner Weigman, who announced at the end of the regular season that he would be transferring, saw his final action as an Aggie, completing two passes and one interception. True freshman Miles O'neill also competed in the game completing five of six passes for 51 yards and his first TD pass to Ashton Bethel-Roman.



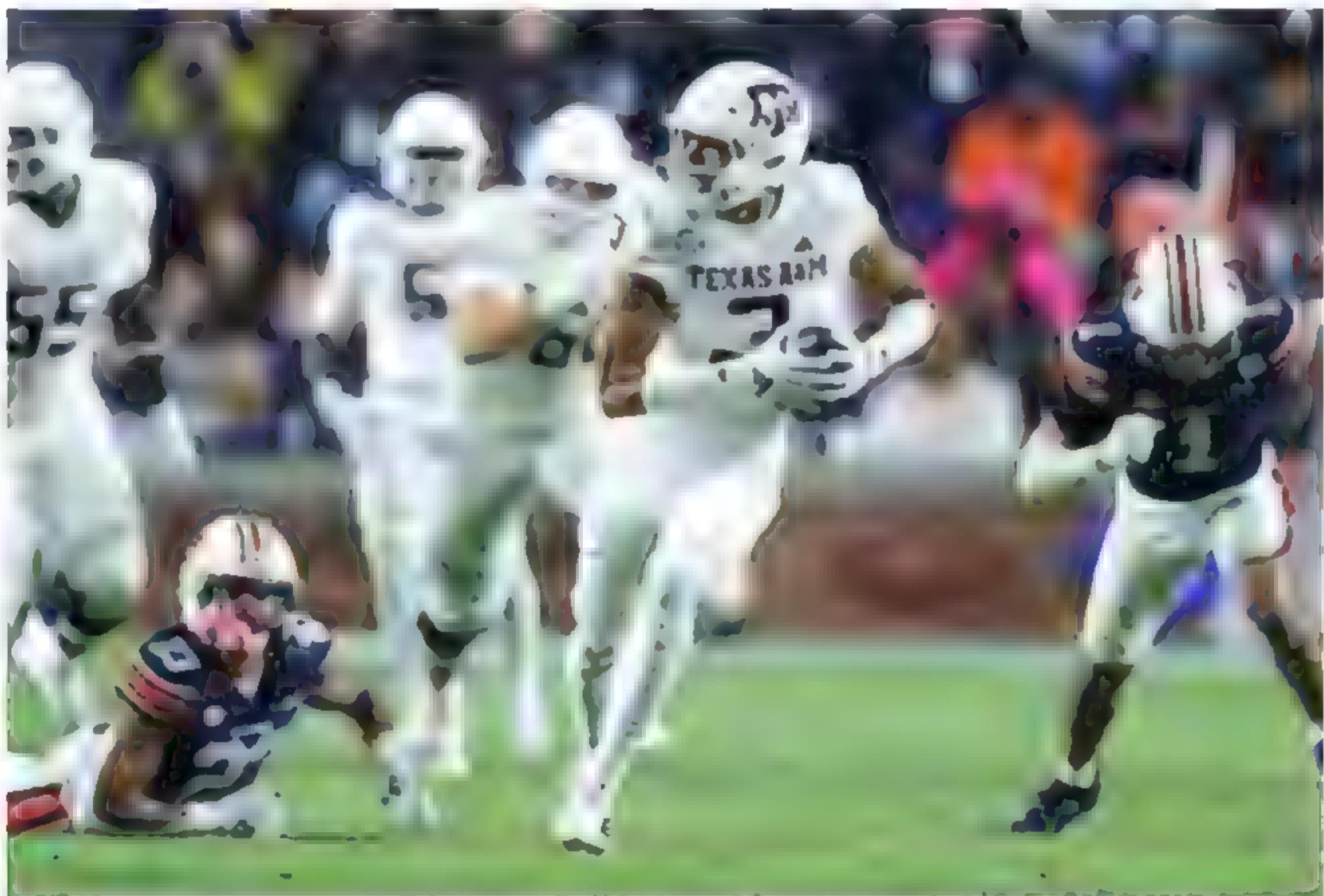
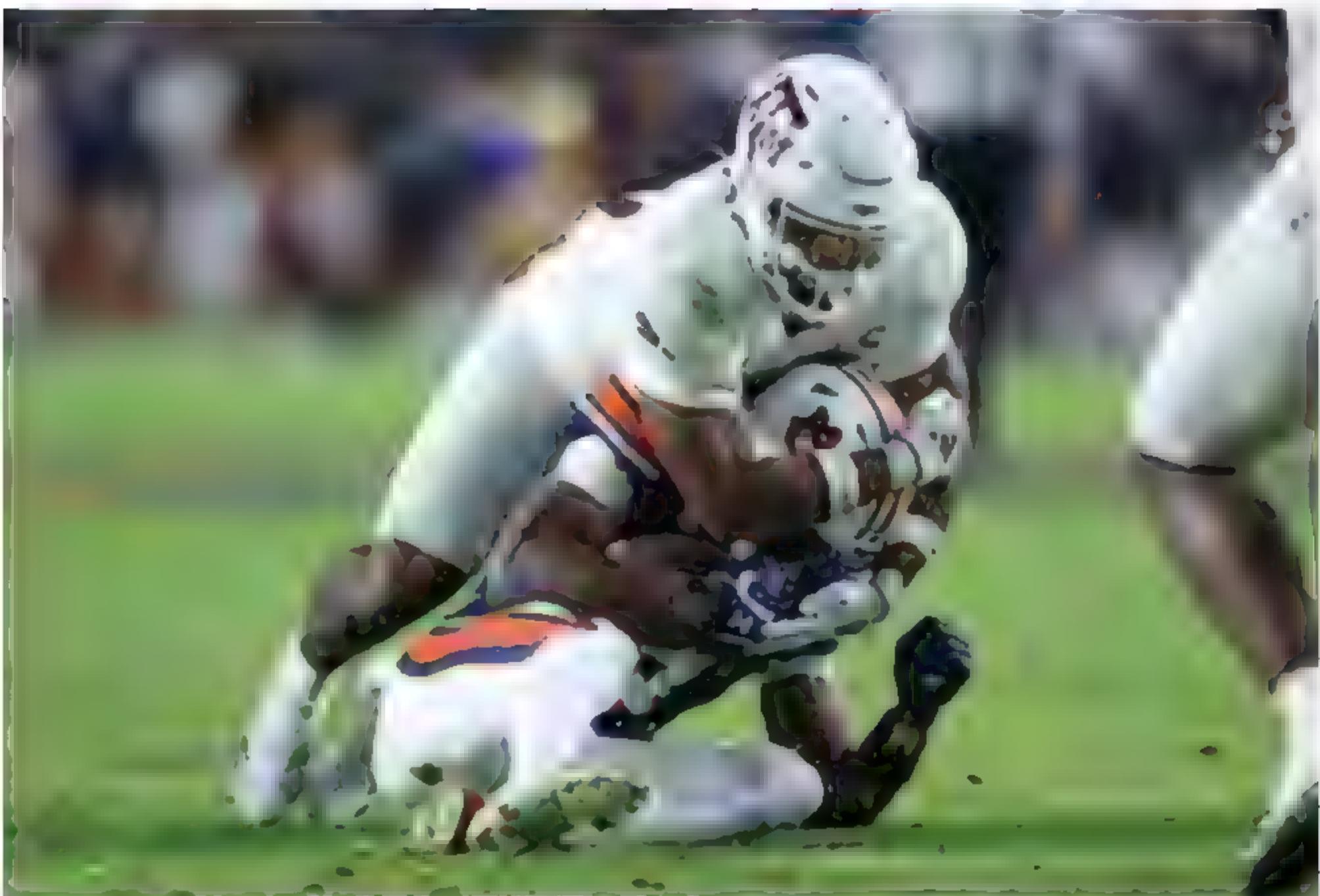


GAME 11



AUBURN 43 - TEXAS A&M 41

The Aggies entered game 11 knowing that two more wins would put them in the SEC Championship game for the first time. The Tigers were playing spoiler and a capacity crowd cheered them on as they jumped out to a 21-point lead. The Aggies battled back and Noah Thomas tied the score at 21 with a catch and run that went for 73 yards in the third quarter. The teams battled back and forth until Daniels put the Aggies on top 31-28 with an eight-yard touchdown with four minutes to play. The Aggies were in control and needed just one more first down to run out the clock, but the Tigers forced a punt and then tied the game with a field goal to force overtime. The Aggies went on top in the first overtime as Jahdae Walker took a pass from Reed and fought his way into the endzone. The Tigers answered with a touchdown of their own forcing a second OT. The teams traded field goals in the second OT as Bond hit a big 42-yard. Neither team scored in the third period, setting up the final stanza. The Tigers scored on their try, forcing the Aggies to score again to force another overtime. On the final play of the game, Bussey took the snap and ran to his left. He tossed the ball to Reed who reversed field and spotted Daniels in the endzone. He released the pass but the ball fell out of his hands, giving the Tigers the win, 43-41.



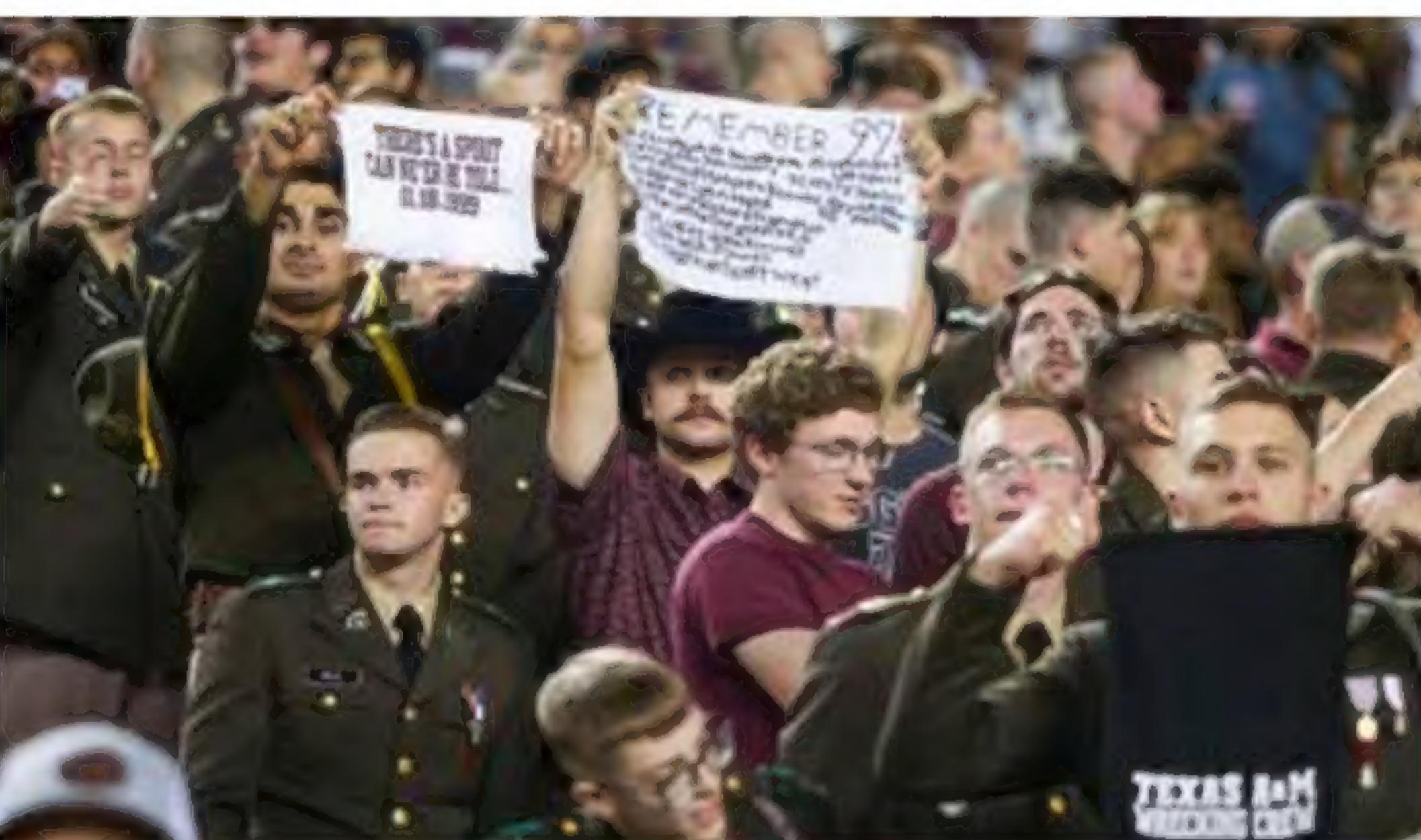
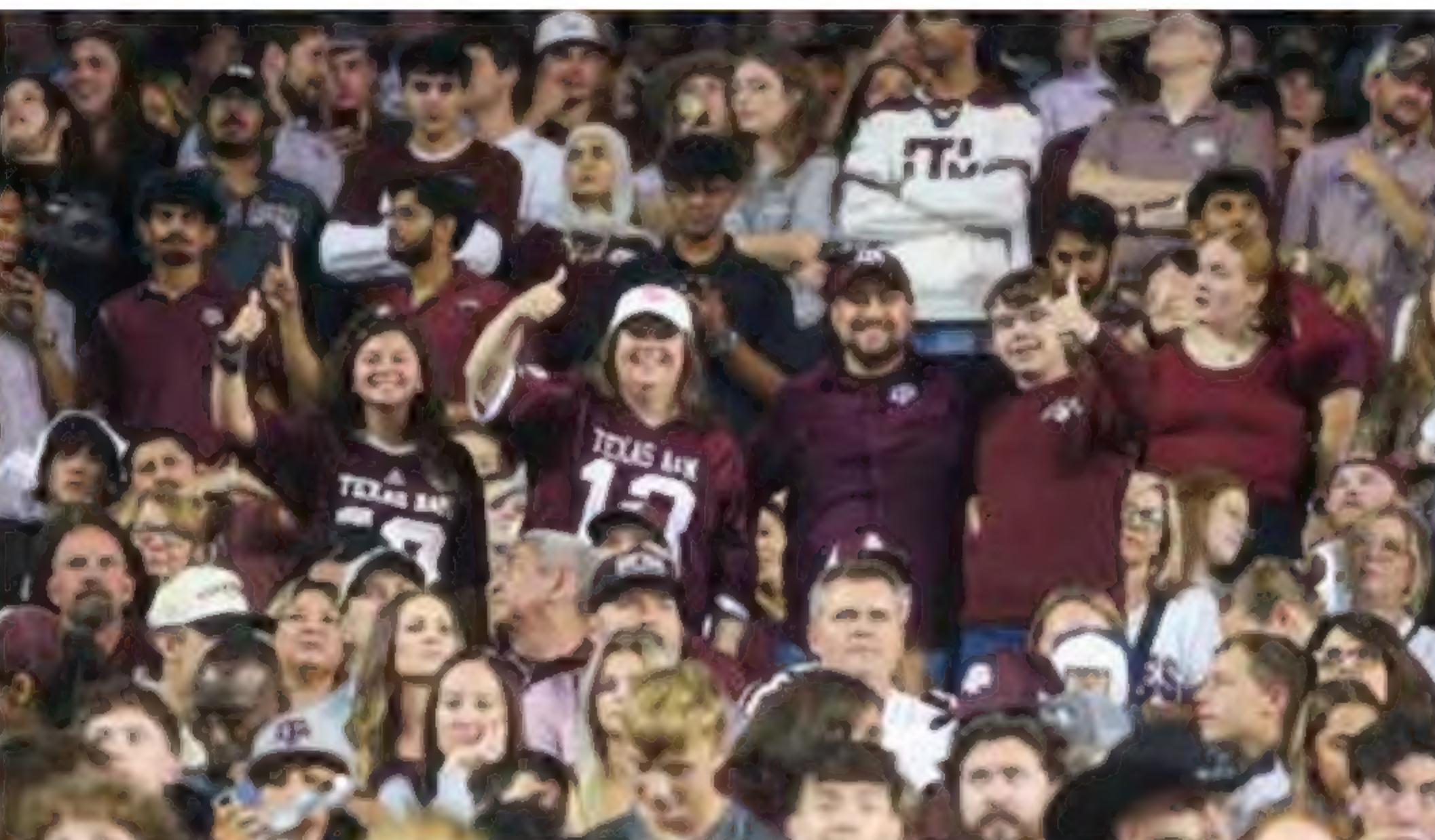
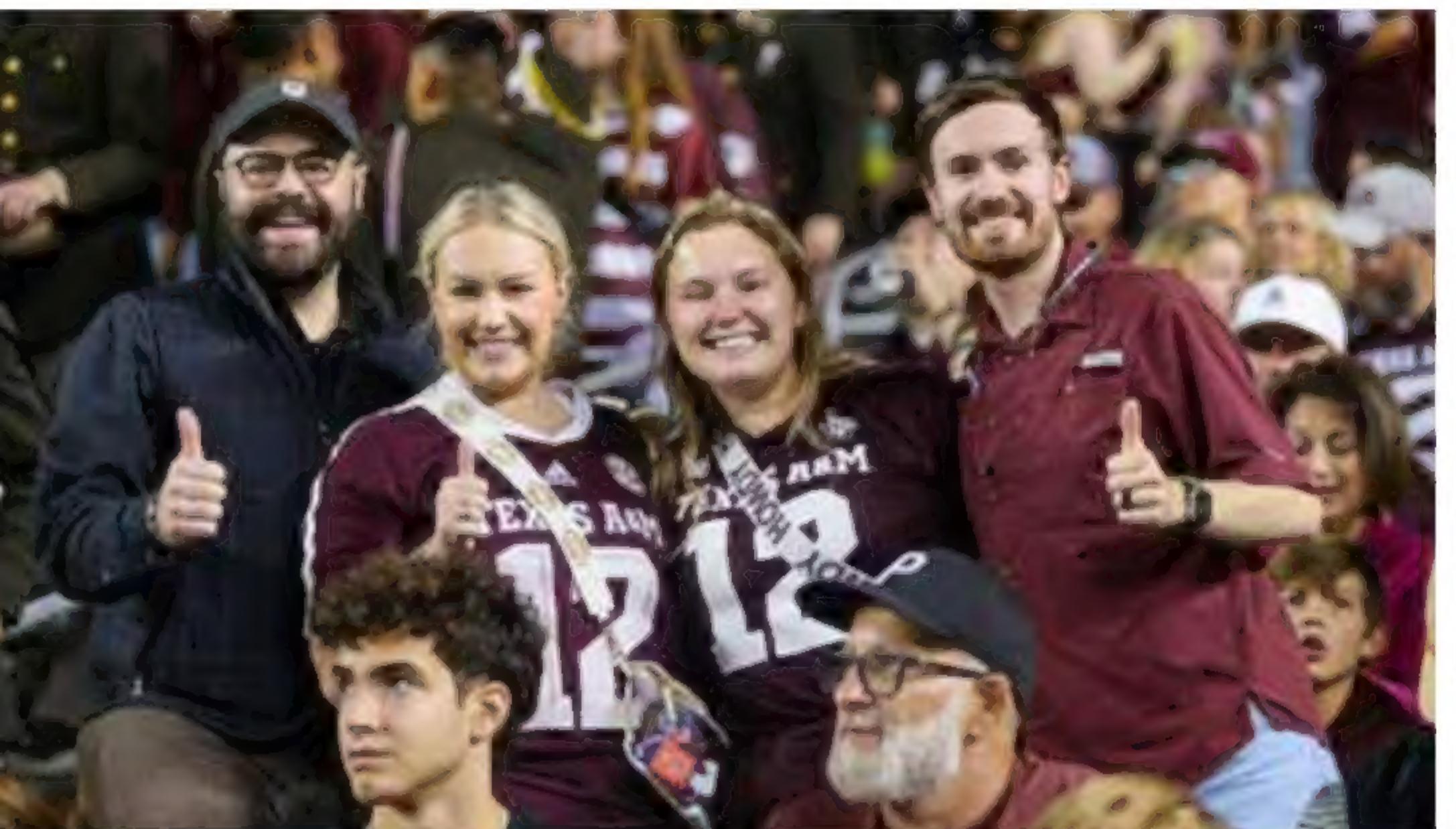
GAME 12



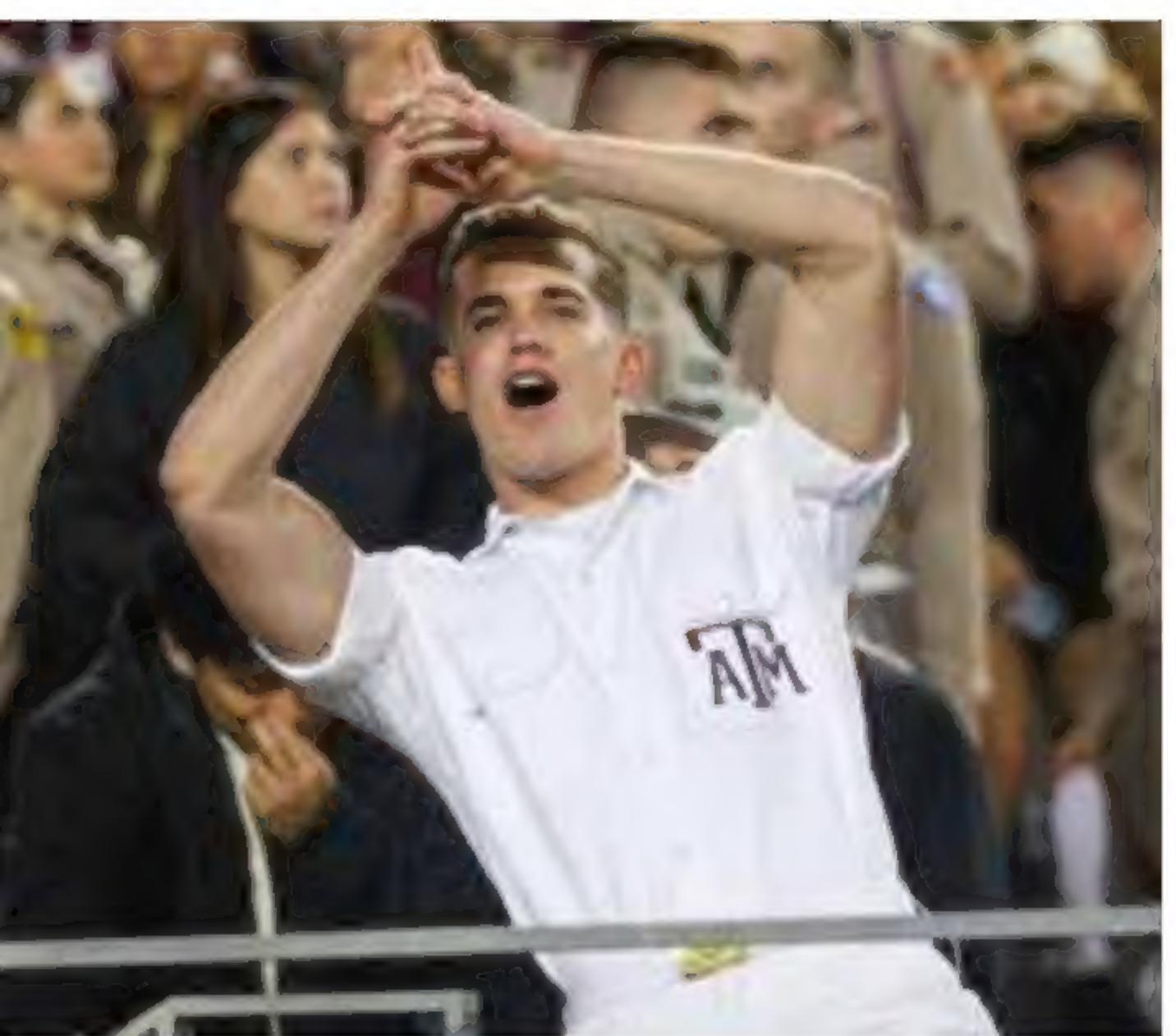
TEXAS 17 - TEXAS A&M 7

The Aggies went into the most anticipated game of the season still holding their championship hopes in their own hands. Playing in front of the third-largest crowd in Kyle Field history, the Aggies took the field with great expectations. Marcel Reed led the team down the field in their first possession completing big passes to Bussey and Walker and guiding the team to the Loghorn ten-yard line. Facing fourth and one the Aggies were stopped and the Horns took over. The defense would force a three-and-out and give the Aggies great field position at the 50. On the next possession, Reed was intercepted and Texas took over at the seven-yard line. The Horns would drive to the Aggie 15 where Arch Manning came in and scored their first touchdown. The Horns would add ten more points and take a 17-0 lead at the half. In the second half, the teams would force punts on their first possessions before Texas put together a 78-yard drive to the Aggie seven-yard line. On third and four, Quinn Ewers attempted a pass that was batted up by DJ Hicks into the hands of Will Lee III, who raced 93 yards for an Aggie touchdown. In the fourth quarter, down by two scores, the Aggies drove all the way to the Horns one-yard line. On fourth and one Amari Daniels was tackled in the backfield, ending the Aggies last chance to get the win.





THE 12TH MAN



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